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THIS JOURNAL is regularly supplied by subscription to the whole of the Members of SIXTEEN PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETIES in the British Empire. The associate Journal *The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia*, published at Melbourne and Sydney, is also supplied to all Australasian subscribers.

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INSETS.

THE Winter Issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST will be published on Saturday, January 31, 1903. We can receive for insertion in it circulars and price-lists. The Publisher has shown us an artistic booklet that he has prepared in regard to the issue, and he will send a copy to any interested advertiser. It will give ideas as well as facts.

OUR DIARY FOR 1903.

ALL our subscribers at home should receive their copies of the new DIARY before the end of next week. It is sent carriage paid, but if any surcharge is claimed subscribers should pay it and send the receipt ou to us, when we shall refund the money. The DIARY is the best one we have yet published. Each copy contains coupon-cards which entitle subscribers to compete for ten guineas in prizes. The centre part of the cards has a list of poison-antidotes printed upon it, and will be useful. Subscribers who wish additional copies of the DIARY should write for them promptly, as already they are in good demand by new subscribers.

Summary.

A FEW new s'ore-prices are announced (p. 923).

A SUGGESTION for a P.A.T.A. label is given on p. 955.

CAMWAL is paying 2½ per cent. on the ordinary shares (p. 937).

THE bromide-market is approaching collapse, owing to American competition (p. 941).

THE College of Preceptors' Preliminary examination has returned to favour again (p. 942).

THE DEATH of Mr. C. R. BLACKETT, the leader of pharmacy in Victoria, is reported (p. 943).

MR. JOHN THOMAS, the 1887 Pereira medallist, died suddenly last week (p. 922 and p. 943).

THE P.A.T.A. Convention has brought one disapproving and some approving letters (p. 955).

ARE you one of the 10,000 chemists who have not subscribed to the Benevolent Fund? (p. 928).

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS CASES are numerous this week, but not of great importance (p. 947).

THE VINOLIA COMPANY have something to say on p. 956 regarding their attitude to pharmacists.

THE BOOTS PROVIDENT FUND promises to be a good thing for the managers of the companies (p. 937).

A KODAK case with the London Stereoscopic Company as defendants is in the High Court (p. 946).

THERE is much bad oil of peppermint on the market just now. Mr. Parry writes about the matter on p. 948.

A TABLOID is a tabloid, just as a Kodak is always a Kodak, but Dr. J. C. McWalter takes another view (p. 956).

PHARMACEUTICAL RECIPROCITY in Australia has practically been accomplished. It may be Pan-Britannic yet (p. 941).

AN unqualified dentist at Ashton on Mersey has been fined under the Dentists Act for advertising his special qualifications (p. 946).

"XRAYSER," in his observations on the P.A.T.A. Convention, emphasises the manufacturers' objections to the P.A.T.A. principle (p. 939).

TERITORIAL REPRESENTATION on the Pharmaceutical Council is the next topic the Federation of Local Associations is to take up (p. 936).

FROM EDINBURGH comes a message to ca' canny in regard to further pharmacopoeial standardisation. Mr. D. B. Dott led the way (p. 931).

THE BENEVOLENT FUND was the principal topic discussed by the Pharmaceutical Council this week. Money for it is badly wanted (p. 928).

A CARTOON AND VERSES dealing with the P.A.T.A. Convention, and a suggestion by Mr. Fred Reynolds for disposing of canine customers, figure on p. 938.

THE solubility figures determined by Professor Greenish and Mr. Upsher Smith are criticised by Messrs. P. W. Squire and C. M. Caines in a paper on p. 944.

THE name of a registered dentist has been removed from the dentists' register because he used the description L.D.S. The Irish College had withdrawn his diploma (p. 953).

THE Southampton County Court Judge has held that a month's notice should be given to chemists' assistants, and he has told why they should not be treated like farm labourers (p. 947).

DR. DIVERS, F.R.S., at the dinner of the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy gave an interesting account of Chinese and Japanese chemical methods (p. 935). The doctor's portrait is on p. 929.

THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL has discussed a Medical Acts Amendment Bill designed to give it more cash (p. 953). We submit that a Pharmacopoeia clause should be added to it (p. 941).

KAISER WILHELM, when at Sandringham, gave his uncle and his guests a demonstration of the utility of duty-free spirit. A chance here for the Botolph and Burlington Houses Spirit Committees (p. 942).

DECEMBER has opened quietly so far as regards wholesale business. The bromide market has gone to the wall, and there is to be a keen struggle between European and American makers. Ipecacuanha has advanced since the auctions, and there has been more doing in quinine at slightly better prices. Cream of tartar is firmer, and ergot, menthol, cod-liver oil, and hyposulphite of soda are all easier, while cocoa-butter, concrete oil of orris, and nitrate of silver are lower (p. 948).

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

At Pontefract on November 29, Francis Swaine, trading as a chemist at Knottingley, was fined 7s. (the costs of the case) for having sold fireworks without a licence.

Mr. R. H. Featherstone, chemist and druggist, of Tunstall, has purchased from Mr. J. S. Scholes, late of Derby, the formula and proprietary rights of Scholes's Nervine Powders.

The Margate Magistrates on November 26 granted a medicated-wine licence to Mr. Victor J. Woolls, chemist and druggist, for his new premises at 21 Canterbury Road, Margate.

At the annual meeting of the Royal Society on December 1 the medals recently awarded (*C. & D.*, November 22) were presented, and in the evening a dinner was held in the Hôtel Métropole.

At Dunmow Petty Sessions on November 24, a summons against a baker named Buck for stealing 1*l.* 10*s.*, the moneys of Mr. William M. Kinross, pharmaceutical chemist, of Dunmow, was dismissed.

The Rye Rural District Council has accepted the tenders of Mr. W. H. D. Horrell, chemist and druggist, and Messrs. Plomley & Waters (Limited), chemists and druggists, for the supply of disinfectants for the ensuing year.

Three men were suffocated by fumes while emptying a kiln at a Borstal cement-factory. Artificial respiration was tried for some time, under the direction of Mr. G. F. Marriner, chemist and druggist, Borstal, but without avail.

The Corporate Property Committee of the London County Council reported that they had been offered a yearly rent of 150*l.* for a twenty-one years' lease for the old gas-meter testing-station at Castle Street, Southwark, by Messrs. Hearon, Squire & Francis, wholesale druggists. It was agreed to accept the offer.

At the Hull City Police Court on December 2, William Lawson Loten, chemist and druggist, Mytongate, Hull (who has since been given one month's imprisonment in the second division for offences under the Bankruptcy Act), was charged under the Excise Act with selling unstamped patent medicines on June 9. The case was adjourned *sine die*.

At the weekly meeting of the London County Council on Tuesday, the Stores Committee reported having received a letter from Messrs. Dick, asking that their contract for glycerin might be cancelled owing to a mistake having been made in the quotation. The committee were satisfied that a mistake had been made, and recommended that the contract be cancelled, which was agreed to.

The Arsenic Commission.

The Royal Commission on arsenical poisoning have recently held a series of meetings in connection with a report received from their Assistant Commissioner, Mr. H. Hammond Smith, on the liability of articles of food and drink, other than beer, to contain arsenic, and have taken evidence from certain manufacturers on this part of their reference. Several chemical and other inquiries which the Commission have instituted are also in progress. It is understood that the Commission will complete taking evidence early in the next parliamentary Session, and will then prepare their final report.

Parcel-post to Canada.

Arrangements have been made by the Post Office whereby the senders of parcels for Canada may assume responsibility for the payment of the Customs charges ordinarily collected from the addressees. Persons who wish to avail themselves of these arrangements must, as in other cases of the same kind, pay a fee of 6*d.* in addition to the postage, sign an undertaking to pay on demand the amount due, and make a deposit on account of the charges at the rate of 1*s.* for each 10*s.* or fraction of 10*s.* of the value of the parcel.

Royal Institution.

At the meeting on December 1, Dr. Edward Divers was, amongst others, elected a member of the Institution, and donations to the Fund for the Promotion of Experimental Research at Low Temperatures were announced from Mrs. Hickman (21*l.*) and Dr. Frank McClean, F.R.S. (40*l.*).

Bonding of Dutiable Articles.

A further General Order, recently issued by the Commissioners of H.M. Customs, sanctions the addition of rice, arrowroot, cassava powder and tapioca, mandioca, or tapioca-flour, sago, sago-flour, Quaker oats, rolled oats, and articles of a like character, and macaroni, vermicelli, and similar preparations of dutiable cereals to the list of articles which may be warehoused in bond.

Fire.

A gas-engine exploded on the premises of Messrs. Pontifex, engineers, Burgoyne Court, Coleman Street, E.C., on November 28, and a fire resulted. The fire-brigade of Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co. promptly extinguished the conflagration, and when the London fire-brigade arrived with twenty engines its services were not required.

"Appalling" Advice.

Dr. F. L. Teed, public analyst of Islington, stating in his last quarterly report to the borough council, just issued, that of 147 samples analysed by him which were submitted by the inspector under the Food and Drugs Acts, thirty-two samples were found to be adulterated, adds that this revealed an amount of adulteration that was "simply appalling." He advises that the number of samples taken should be "very materially increased," and that "every vendor of food or drugs in the borough should, at least once a year, have samples purchased from him."

Workhouse Drugs and Dispensing.

At a recent meeting of the Islington Board of Guardians, the Finance Committee, as the result of an inquiry into the drug-question, recommended that the medical officers be advised to consider the question of expense when ordering medicines, and that they should enter all prescriptions and treatment in the proper columns as required by the L.G.B. They also suggest that the dispenser keep a prescription-book, that the supply of medicines should be made, as far as practicable, for two or three days, and that each prescription, without regard to the number of items, should be counted as one. A Guardian said the cost of drugs had increased from 1,243*l.* in 1892 to 3,441*l.* in 1902.

Students' Visits.

Last week a number of students from the South London School of Pharmacy visited the laboratories and warehouses of Messrs. Davy, Hill & Co., in Southwark. Under the guidance of the manager (Mr. Collins) they were shown the various pharmaceutical preparations in process of manufacture, the apparatus employed being lucidly explained. Exceptional interest was taken in the preparation of extract of malt, confection of senna, citrate of caffeine, &c., and the crystallisation of sulphate of soda. The Brahmat press also was practically explained, and the party watched lozenge, tablet, and pill machines in full swing. The practical details in the manufacture of the scale and granular compounds having been exhibited, the inspection concluded with a visit to the scientific laboratory, where estimations and standardisations were in progress.

The students on December 3 visited the laboratories and dispensaries of the London Hospital, and were conducted over it by Mr. E. W. Morris, the chief pharmacist.

Two Tragic Endings.

An inquest was held last week on the body of John Thomas (37), chemist, who was found dead in the Shaftesbury Arms, Adair Road, North Kensington. It was stated that deceased carried on business at Notting Hill, and that his wife was the licensee of the Shaftesbury Arms. He had suffered from a stricture and other complaints, and in consequence used to inject morphia to ease the pain. On November 26 he was found dead by the barman, and near by was the case and a

needle of a hypodermic syringe. Dr. J. T. Conry said there were no signs of morphia-poisoning. Death was due to rupture of a blood-vessel in the brain, and from a natural cause. Verdict accordingly.

The residents in the neighbourhood of Park Lane, Langley, having expressed dissatisfaction with the verdict of the Coroner's jury which investigated the death of Robert Place Hensby, chemist and druggist, Langley, appealed to the police to investigate. Hensby died at his lodgings on November 17. On his boxes being searched four letters were found, one addressed to the Coroner, one to Dr. Sharpe (deceased's medical attendant), one to his brother, and the other to his landlady. These letters were handed over to Dr. Sharpe, and the latter had an interview with the relieving officer, as a result of which the police were communicated with. At the inquest the letters were read. The one addressed to the deceased's brother stated—

I die by my own hand, by taking 1 oz. of laudanum. My health is lost, and I am reduced to a skeleton. Death is welcome and inevitable. Money is useless. Bury me quietly. It is the last ride you can do for your unfortunate brother.—R. P. HENSBY.

The remarkable thing is that Dr. Sharpe, when he made the *post-mortem* examination, found no trace of poison, and certified that death was due to natural causes. The jury returned a verdict to that effect. The police, therefore, have refused to take any notice of the residents' appeal, on the ground that the Coroner's verdict closed the incident.

A Liking for Pharmacy.

On Thursday morning, November 27, Mr. G. M. Cobb, chemist and druggist, Northgate, Halifax, found the front door of his shop wide open. An examination showed that burglars had been there. Nearly everything in the shop was ransacked, and about 6s. was taken from the till. Several bottles of wine were stolen, a bottle of lime-juice, and one of lime-water. The audacity of the robbery is heightened by the fact that a similar visit was paid to Mr. Cobb's premises during the previous week, and the police were on the lookout for the thieves.

Debt-cases.

At the Westminster County Court on December 2, Judge Woodfall ordered a Mr. Gibson, a chemist's assistant in a West-end pharmacy at 35s. a week, to pay up a debt due to a Mr. Benson in a month, subject to committal for seven days in default.

At the same time, in the case of Cooper *v.* Haynes, the defendant, a chemist carrying on business at Croydon (not now, he said, on his own account) was ordered to pay up at the rate of 10s. a month.

Store-prices.

The Army and Navy Stores' price for cod-liver oil has been advanced to 7s. 6d. per gal. (jar 1s. extra, non-returnable). Hommel's hematogen has been reduced to 2s. 6d. per bottle, and Brompton Hospital cough-lozenges to 1s. 3d. per lb.

The Civil Service Supply Association (Limited) have added Koko hair-wash, 4s. 6d. size, trial bottle 2s. 4d., and sparklet siphons 3s. each, to stock. The price of calumba-root has been advanced from 1s. to 1s. 2d. per lb., and Ridge's food is now 11d. and 1s. 10d. per tin, instead of 9½d. and 1s. 6½d. as heretofore.

Birmingham Notes.

One of Mr. Alfred Southall's sons has lately commenced practice in Birmingham as a medical practitioner, in partnership with Dr. Leech, of Monument Road. He graduated a few months ago as an M.D. of a Scotch University.

A wonderful pair of scales has found its way to Birmingham from Michigan, U.S.A. It weighs, records the weight, and calculates the price of the article weighed at once and the same time. It is not very large, and not unduly heavy.

Writing to us on November 29, a Birmingham subscriber says:—

Food and drugs inspector just been in. "Do you sell mercury ointment?" "Yes." "Four ounces, please." On explaining that I did not supply B.P. except with doctor's prescription, but could let him have some "mitigated," he said he wanted the strong, and went out. Birmingham chemists, beware!

An excellently got-up bazaar-programme of a King's Heath church revealed on inspection some neat advertisements by pharmacists. Perfumes and Christmas presents were offered by Marshall Brothers, Moseley; pharmaceutical products, Messrs. M. T. Lowther and T. H. Foden.

Principal Lodge has advanced the science of electricity another notch by his lecture before the engineers at their Institute, Westminster, on the subject of electrons. He contends that electricity is a form of matter, the ultimate particles of which are $\frac{1}{100000}$ part of the size of the ordinarily accepted size of the chemical atom.

Football.

London College *v.* Ferme Park Institute.—Played at Wormholt Farm on November 29. This North London team was undoubtedly the strongest combination the College have met this season, and, after a hard struggle, the game was won by the College team by two goals to one.

Pharmaceutical F. C. v. South London (Muter's) School of Pharmacy.—An Inter-pharmacy League match was played between these teams at Wormholt Farm, Shepherd's Bush, on November 29. The game was evenly played during the first twenty minutes; afterwards the Square team pressed their rivals, and at half-time had scored three goals to *nil*. In the second half, although Muter's showed good form, they were unable to resist the Square forwards, and at the close of play the Square had scored another six goals and Muter's one. The match thus ended in a win for the Square by nine goals to one.

The Week's Poisonings.

The deaths from poisoning reported during the week number twelve, five of which were caused by the unscheduled poisons ammonia (2), phosphorus, nitric acid, and hydrochloric acid. The scheduled list included chlorodyne (2), carbolic acid (3), chloroform, and prussic acid. The chlorodyne was taken in overdose by a commission-agent at Tunbridge Wells, named Boorman, and by Adolphus Ellerman, a Camden Town musician. An unemployed reservist took a dose of carbolic acid, and was found dead in Hyde Park. A 6-year-old boy at Leeds, named Rosenthal, got hold of a bottle containing carbolic acid and took a fatal draught. A nurse at Prince's Road Workhouse infirmary, Lambeth, gave an inmate named Tiffany a dose of carbolic acid in mistake for "house-mixture"; the man died, but a coroner's jury exonerated the nurse. A Willesden doctor named Buckle was found dead in bed with a handkerchief to his nose and an unstoppered chloroform-bottle in his hand. Richard Heathfield, a mining-engineer, committed suicide at his residence in St. George's Square, S.W., with prussic acid. A man named Burgess poisoned himself with nitric acid at Manchester; while hydrochloric acid was taken by a railway-porter's wife at Walthamstow. A child at Lowestoft sucked the heads off a number of matches, and died from phosphorus-poisoning. An intemperate Barnsley miner named Seed drank fourpennyworth of liquid ammonia, and died. A cotton-spinner at Hyde killed himself with the same poison.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Medicine-contracts.

At the last meeting of the Governors of the Enniscorthy Lunatic Asylum Messrs. John Clarke & Son were declared contractors for medicines (at 25 per cent. off L.G.B. list) and for medical appliances (at 22½ per cent. off L.G.B. list)

Basic Slag.

At the Tullamore Petty Sessions on November 29, the Department of Agriculture in Ireland summoned Messrs P. & H. Egan (Limited), druggists, Tullamore, for having sold for use as a soil-fertiliser 1 ton of basic slag, and failing to give an invoice stating the name and quality of the article, and whether it was artificially compounded or not, and what

was the percentage of nitrogen, soluble and insoluble phosphates, and potash, if any, contained therein. For the defence it was shown that Messrs. Egan had purchased the article from a London agent, under a contract guaranteeing it to be of the best quality. The moment a doubt of the article was raised they had it analysed, and offered to replace the goods. The Magistrates dismissed the summons, and stated they were perfectly convinced there was no fraud in the matter, and that it was Messrs. Egan themselves who were the aggrieved parties.

Business Change.

Mr. D. H. O'Sullivan, L.P.S.I., Medical Hall, Newmarket, has opened another Medical Hall at Percival Street, Kanturk. The Newmarket Medical Hall will be carried on by Mr. E. H. O'Sullivan, L.P.S.I., who recently qualified, and who served his apprenticeship with his brother at Newmarket.

Dispensary Fire.

An inmate of the Midleton (co. Cork) Workhouse, said to have been in practice as a medical man in London, was arrested on November 30, charged with setting fire to the workhouse dispensary. An incriminating statement was found written on a slate. The fire was put out by means of a bucket of water.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Football.

A friendly match was played on November 29, at Hawkhill, between the teams of the Royal Dispensary School of Pharmacy (Mr. W. Duncan's) and the Central School of Pharmacy (Mr. W. B. Cowie's), which resulted in a draw, each side scoring two goals.

Fire.

Last week a fire was discovered to have broken out in the Royal Infirmary district dispensary in Tay Street, Dundee. The flames originated through the overheating of a gas-appliance for heating water and spread to the window-frame. Fortunately the outbreak was early detected, and the fire-brigade had little difficulty in suppressing it.

Beecham's Prices in Glasgow.

Referring to our note last week on this subject, Mr. T. Dunlop (Secretary of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Chemists' Trade Association) asks us to state that the price for the 2s. 9d. size is 2s. 3d. It was erroneously stated in our note that "1s. 10d. for 2s. 3d. size" was the new figure.

Young, but Wise.

Bailie Spence, the new pharmaceutical Magistrate at Linlithgow, was on December 1 introduced by Bailie Dowie, who said that the position of the new Magistrate was unique in two respects—(1) because no one had been appointed a magistrate of the burgh at so early an age, and (2) Bailie Spence came from a line that had long occupied the municipal bench. The new Bailie then sat in judgment on a stonemason who assaulted his own father, and sent the man to prison for thirty days with hard labour.

Glasgow Notes.

It is reported that a trade circular, to which reference was recently made in the *C. & D.* and gave much offence locally, has been withdrawn.

A city fancy-goods store devotes a window to a display of potted vaseline labelled "Sixpenny size for twopence," and a suburban chemist is showing a whole windowful of chamois leathers.

It has been arranged that the session of the Glasgow Pharmaceutical Association shall be opened early in January by an address on "Pharmaceutical Politics" by the President (Mr. W. L. Currie).

A suburban chemist, who sends out an elegant business-card, advertises two departments under the heading of "Pharmacy" and "Optics," and illustrates the latter with a photograph showing the apparatus for detecting astigmatism.

On dit that the local grocers are seriously thinking of taking a leaf out of the Trade Association's book. Some of them make no secret of their disgust with the low-profit and no-profit cutting system, which, now that it is general, benefits nobody.

Boots (Limited) are circulating a card which professes to expose the ordinary retail chemist's prodigious profits on a diagrammatic plan. A huge black quadrangular figure stands for the chemist's earnings, and an almost invisible dot for the Stores'!

The dates for the annual social reunions of the local schools of pharmacy are now announced. The West of Scotland College of Pharmacy holds its fourth annual dinner in the Alexandra Hotel on December 11, and the Glasgow School of Pharmacy has a supper in the N.B. Station Hotel on December 16.

There is a pretty quarrel going on between the Glasgow Branch of the British Medical Association and the central Council. According to the new constitution one representative is allowed for every fifty members, but the Glasgow Branch, which has a membership of 250, is refused more than a single representative, on the interpretation that a society cannot claim more. The Branch threatens to split up into five groups if its demand for proportional representation is not conceded.

Much satisfaction is expressed locally with the important part played by Glasgow at the P.A.T.A. Convention. The situation seems to have been hit off by an English delegate, who remarked, "I don't know what we should have done without Glasgow." The Glasgow men are too sensible, however, not to recognise that their contribution formed only one component of an undertaking which owed almost everything to the organising skill and administrative resourcefulness of Mr. Glyn-Jones.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

PHARMACISTS ON STRIKE.—The General Council of the Corrèze Department having, during its last session, made certain modifications in the tariff for the supply of gratuitous medicine to the indigent poor, most of the pharmacists of the Department who hold appointments from the Public Relief Office have sent in their resignations.

AN UNFORTUNATE CONCERN.—Most of the world's production of platinum comes from the Ural Mountains district in Russia, and the platinum-mines there are worked by the Compagnie Industrielle du Platine, a French company. This company took over the mines in 1899, and practically acquired a monopoly in the production of the metal. Unfortunately for its own interests, the French company entered into a contract with a syndicate of platinum-refiners, whereby it agreed to sell the whole of its production to a syndicate at the net even price of 1,394*l.* per Russian poud (36 lbs.). The company began to regret its contract almost as soon as the directors had signed it, for the price of the metal on the market went up to 1,560*l.* early in 1900, and to 1,680*l.* per poud in 1901. The total production of the company in 1900 was 174 ponds, and in 1901 225 ponds, so that the loss to the company by reason of the contract it had entered into, was about 87,000*l.* for the two years. The contract, however, expired in November, and the company now refuse to renew it. In 1900 the mines were flooded, and the consequence was a loss of 26,000*l.* In 1901, however, the profit worked out at 320*l.* per Russian poud, and as it is estimated that the company's annual production is between 150 and 200 ponds, the total net annual profit, now it has got rid of its contract, will be between 90,000*l.* and 120,000*l.*—i.e., if present high prices continue, as is not unlikely.

THE PHARMACIEN'S OATH.—M. Bernard, Director of the Dermotherapeutic Institute, who has been prosecuted by the Pharmacists' Union of the Seine for illegal practice of pharmacy, has been acquitted. The Court decided that it was not proved that he had sold remedies and pharmaceutical preparations, or otherwise practised the "pharmaceutical art." On the other hand, the plea brought forward by the defendant that the plaintiffs could not legally bring an action on account of not having taken the oath imposed on pharmacists by the law, was set aside. The following reasons were given for the latter decision:—

Whereas the text of the oath contains a profession of faith to the dogmas of a positive religion considered as that of a State Church. That it is, consequently, contrary to the essential principles of our public rights, and that the obligation to take such an oath is implicitly cancelled by all intermediary legislation having for object to establish and recognise in France the liberty of all religious beliefs.

Whereas Article 16 of the law of Germinal 21, Year XI., which requires pharmacists to take oath, in Paris before the Prefect of Police, and in the provinces before the local Prefects, to exercise their art with honesty and fidelity, suffices in itself, and implies no reference to the old formula of oath imposed on master apothecaries from the middle of the twelfth century.

Whereas it is not established, nor even argued, that the syndicated pharmacists have not taken before the competent authority the oath prescribed and formulated by the law of Germinal 21, Year XI. That the members of the plaintiff Syndicate exercise the profession of pharmacists, that the public and peaceful exercise of the profession makes it presumable, unless proved to the contrary, that they have satisfied all legal obligations.

At the Paris Law Courts it was stated last week that the Prefecture of Police was contemplating calling on the 1,200 pharmacists of Paris and the Seine Department to take the oath, but as far as I can learn no steps whatever have been taken by the police in the matter.

South African News.

(From our own Correspondents.)

Note.—The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is regularly supplied by order to all the members of all the Pharmaceutical Societies in British South Africa, viz.:—

SOUTH AFRICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.
PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF CAPE COLONY.
NATAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.
TRANSVAAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.
RHODESIA PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.

Transvaal Notes.

JOHANNESBURG, November 8.

MR. LANG, the representative of Messrs. Southall Brothers & Barclay (Limited), Birmingham, has been here on a business trip, and has just left for Natal.

CHEMIST TO LORD MILNER.—Mr. M. A. Lewis, chemist, whose shop in Eloff Street, Johannesburg, is well known to most of the leading people of the town, has been appointed chemist and pharmacist to his Excellency Lord Milner.

CHEMISTS LICENSED.—The following admissions to practice as chemists are notified in the Government *Gazette* this week: Samuel Hooey (L.P.S.I., formerly Cannington), Thomas Merritt Carroll, Joseph Robert Cowburn, and Sydney Baker Warren.

NEW WHOLESALE HOUSE.—There is talk in pharmaceutical circles this week that one of the leading wholesale houses in England intends establishing a business in South Africa in the very near future, with a capital of a quarter of a million. It is intended, I understand, that branches will be established at Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Durban, and Johannesburg.

BUSINESS in JOHANNESBURG.—The town may be generally speaking, is good. During the last two months there has been a large increase of population of the wealthier class, and many families have returned to their homes. The streets present a brighter appearance, shoppers of the better class are more in evidence, and this, together with the rather unsettled and treacherous weather lately prevailing, has all tended to the local betterment of pharmacy.

HEALTH OF JOHANNESBURG.—The town may be generally considered to be in a most healthy condition, apart from

minor ailments. During the past week, however, there have been complaints of the prevalence of dysentery and diarrhoea. Eight cases of dysentery were notified, one of which was fatal. The medical officer at the Town Council meeting on November 5 stated that he thought the causes of this outbreak were to be chiefly attributed to putrefactive changes in food, especially in meat and fish, and also to the use of tinned foodstuffs. He did not consider there was any reason for alarm.

THE TRANSVAAL TARIFF.—Our Johannesburg correspondent sends us further particulars in regard to the new Transvaal tariff, from which we extract the following. Among the articles altogether free of duty are—

All materials, machinery, and appliances exclusively intended for the separation of metals from ore and for the sorting and sifting of metals and ore, and for the manufacture of chemicals or acids necessary for gold-extraction, except sulphuric acid.

Common and soft soap, soap powder and extract for household purposes are to pay 5s. per 100 lbs.; perfumed and toilet soaps, and perfumed soap-powders and extract 10s. per 100 lbs. Under perfumery, which is to pay 7½ per cent. ad val., the following articles are enumerated:—

Cosmetics, hair-dyes, hair-oils, hair-powders, hair-restorers, hair-washes, skin salves and creams, lip-salves, oils (hair and scented), perfumery sachets, powders for scenting the bath, powders and paste for teeth, powders and creams for the face and skin (including fullers' earth), pomade, scents (as Florida water and lavender-water and above 50° Tralles), scented oil, shaving paste and cream, tooth-paste, tooth-powders, tooth-washes, toilet-paper, toilet powder and creams, toilet-waters, waters for the hair, skin, and teeth. All toilet, hair, and tooth waters, as well as oils containing alcohol (standard, 11° Tralles and higher) are taxed as distilled liquids, and pay a further 20s. per Imp. gal. as "perfumed spirits." Perfumed oils, perfumery, and toilet articles under 11° Tralles, 7½ per cent. ad val. Opium is taxed at 5s. per lb.

Goods imported via Beira and Komati Poort are dutiable under the Portuguese Customs tariff, and the following articles are on the "free list":—

Bicarbonate of soda, gum and pastes, bark and corks, sulphur, potassium salts, caustic soda, and empty bottles.

Medicines pay 5 per cent. ad val., common soap 100 reis per kilo., soap-tablets and perfumery 10 per cent. ad val., alcohol (below 24° Cartier) 170 reis per litre, ditto above 24° Cartier 450 reis, spirits (such as brandy, whisky, &c.) 375 reis per litre.

The 17. sterling is equivalent to 4,500 reis, and the litre 1·760 Imp. pint. Previous references to the Transvaal tariff will be found in our issues of October 18, page 653, and November 8, page 772.

Colonial and Foreign News.

THE NEW RUSSIAN PHARMACOPOEIA is very adversely criticised in Russian pharmaceutical circles. It is said that the work leaves everything to be desired, that the directions relating to the determination of the value of the preparations are very imperfect, and show a want of knowledge on the part of the compilers. The Commission, which was at work on the Pharmacopoeia for five years, consisted of five doctors and two pharmacists. One of the latter, however, could not act on account of advanced age and defective eyesight.

GERMAN CHEMICAL-TRADE.—The report of the Society for Protecting the Interests of the Chemical-industry of Germany, read by the General Secretary (Mr. Wenzel) at the recent general meeting, stated that the 120 companies in the chemical-trade, with a paid-up capital of 352,653,100m., paid dividends amounting to 43,376,135m. (2,168,806l.) in 1901. The average dividend amounted to 12·30 per cent., against 12·33 per cent. in 1900. In the case of 24 of the companies the dividends ranged from nil to 2½ per cent.; 13 companies yielded between 2½ per cent. and 5 per cent.; 17 companies distributed between 5 per cent. and 7½ per cent.; 27 companies paid from 7½ per cent. to 10 per cent.; 20 companies from 10 to 15 per cent.; and 19 companies distributed over 15 per cent. The alkali, acid, and inorganic chemical industry paid an average dividend of 11·92 per cent., against 12·68 in the previous year. The average dividend of companies engaged in making scientific, pharmaceutical, photographic, and technical preparations was 15·34 per cent. against 12·74 per cent. the year before.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

COUNCIL-MEETING.

MR. JOHN TAYLOR was the only Councillor absent from Wednesday's meeting, which took place in artificial light. Photographs of the late Mr. Robbins and the B.P.C. Undeac group were accepted by the Council. From the Benevolent Fund 81*l.* was granted to six applicants, but as the Secretary reported that the Fund will probably be 110*l.* short at the end of the year, a speacial appeal was made for subseriptions. The primitive heating-arrangements in the lecture-theatre are to be replaced by hot-water apparatus, on the suggestion of Mr. Carteighe, and other improvements are to take place to make the theatre "a credit to any institution." Letters from the Colonial Office and the Governor of Barbados ask the Society to make arrangements for conducting examinations in the island of Barbados. A committee is going to consider what reply to make. Mr. St. Cyr, Hayti, is anxious to have a certificate of membership to replace one he has lost, and if it is not sent will instruct his agent to take proceedings against the Society "at any cost." Mr. Young tried to draw Mr. Hills to say something about the Poisons Committee, but all Mr. Hills would say was that he had presented a minority report.

The monthly Council-meeting was held at 16 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., on December 3. There were present the President (Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme), Vice-President (Mr. C. B. Allen), Treasurer (Mr. S. R. Atkins), and Messrs. Carteighe, Cooper, Corder, Gifford, Glyn-Jones, Harrington, Harrison, Hills, Park, Robinson, Savory, Southall, Storrar, Symes, Wootton, and Young.

LETTERS.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read, the PRESIDENT announced that Mr. Percy Robbins had given a framed photograph of his father to the Society.

The Privy Council wrote approving of the gentlemen who were elected examiners at the last meeting.

ELECTIONS AND RESTORATIONS.

The name of one chemist was restored to the register on payment of a fine of 1*l.* 1*s.*, two persons were elected life-members of the Society, and two were restored to their former positions in the Society on payment of the subseripton.

The superintendents of written examinations in London, Edinburgh, and Manchester (Messrs. C. B. Allen, J. B. Stephenson, and H. Kemp) were appointed, also deputies.

FINANCIAL.

The report of the Finance Committee was received, showing the following balances:—

	£	s.	d.
General Fund Account	2,025 9 8
Benevolent Fund...	525 11 6
Donation Account	271 16 0
Orphan Fund Account	26 4 3

and submitted for payment the sum of 2,086*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*, made up of 892*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.* *Journal*; 695*l.* 18*s.* salaries and annuities; 151*l.* taxes; 150*l.* current expenses; 118*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.* law costs; and 78*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.* sundries.

The report was adopted.

BENEVOLENCE.

A donation of ten guineas was received from the committee of the Junior Chemists' Ball.

The report of the Benevolent Fund Committee was considered in committee, after which

The VICE-PRESIDENT, in moving the adoption of the report, said there was a large number of deserving cases

before the committee, but most of the applicants had previously received grants. Sums (two of 10*l.*, two of 13*l.*, and one each of 15*l.* and 20*l.*) were granted.

The report was adopted, after which

The SECRETARY called attention to the fact that the Fund would have to pay out 110*l.* more than it possessed. That sum, he calculated, would be the shortage at the end of the year. It was the first time such a thing had happened, and he trusted that the 10,000 chemists who did not give anything would send him their subscriptions.

The PRESIDENT did not think it was the first time such a shortage had occurred. He understood that since his appeal at the last Council-meeting many outstanding subscriptions had come in, but there were still those 10,000 people eligible to receive the benefits of the Fund who did not subscribe. If only each of the non-subscribers would send 2*s.* 6*d.*, a big sum would be realised. There was no reason to complain, however, if the subscriptions had fallen off owing to the great demands which had been made on the charitable during the last year or so. With the many new organisations which were formed with so much energy throughout the kingdom, he hoped that the Benevolent Fund would come in for consideration. Christmas time was a good opportunity for non-subscribers to give at least 2*s.* 6*d.* to the Fund.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said it was astounding that 10,000 people eligible to receive the benefits of the Fund did not subscribe. It was also a pity that the Orphan Fund was neglected; the terms of the bequest were not onerous. It only needed that the parent of the orphan should have been connected with the Society, and also have subscribed for at least three years to the Benevolent Fund.

The TREASURER said he was always reluctant to press appeals for benevolence, but he thought the statement made by the Secretary justified the President in his remarks. There was a catholicity in the administration of the Fund which all admired. The late Mr. Robbins, whose portrait had been handed round, always argued that only those who subscribed to the Fund should receive the benefits, and there was something to be said for that point of view. That, however, was not the view of those who administered the Fund, and he hoped the 10,000 brethren who were so unwise as not to subscribe would do so, not necessarily because their support was wanted.

Mr. COOPER added a few words to the President's appeal, and said he (the speaker) would at all times do his best to further the objects of the Fund.

Mr. STORRAR asked if the shortage was due to diminished subseriptions or increased grants. Ought not the Secretary to make a special appeal to the divisional Secretaries to make a personal canvass of the trade? It was the first year since the divisional Secretaries had been practically prohibited from appealing for subseriptions. (No, no.) Well, at least, they have been discouraged, and it will take a year or two to get members to understand that they must remit their subseriptions.

The PRESIDENT said no divisional Secretary is prevented or discouraged from calling on his friends for subseriptions; he has only been relieved of the necessity of calling. There has only been a small difference in the amount of the subseriptions received, and he hoped the mention of the deficit would have the effect of inducing their friends to send in subseriptions.

The SECRETARY said he should be sorry if a misapprehension went forth that the divisional Secretaries are prohibited from collecting subseriptions. This is the second year since the secretary scheme was devised, and the falling-off in subseriptions had been very small—it was inside 50%. It could not be attributed to the new regulations at all.

Mr. WOOTTON said it should be made clear that the deficit was due to more grants being made, not to any falling-off in the subseriptions. As a member of the committee, he could say that not a sixpence was spent that was not called for. The members of the trade ought to recognise that the demands on the Fund was the cause of the shortage.

Mr. YOUNG: Surely every subscriber gets a reminder that his subseription is due.

The SECRETARY: Oh, yes! but we want new subscribers.

Mr. YOUNG: Are the divisional Secretaries supplied with a list of chemists in their district who have not subscribed?

The SECRETARY: We tell them to call on everybody.

Mr. GLYN-JONES: The divisional Secretary does not want to call for subscriptions from those who have already paid.

Mr. HARRISON: What is wanted is some means of making up the leakage of subscribers. Instead of requiring a divisional Secretary to ask every man in his district, why not supply a list of those who have not subscribed, and let him call and place the claims of the Fund before each non-subscriber?

Dr. SYMES said he took it that non-subscribers were chiefly those not connected with the Society, who do not see the *Journal*, and, in fact, are never appealed to. The calculation of 10,000 people eligible for the Fund was underestimated; there were, he thought, at least 50,000, when those depending on each chemist were reckoned.

The SECRETARY said that he had sent to 250 divisional Secretaries lists of chemists in their districts, with an indication of the members from whom subscriptions had been received. He did not know what more he could do.

Mr. CROSS: Every chemist gets a copy of the *Journal* once a year.

The TREASURER was authorised to pay the first instalment at Christmas of the annuities which will accrue to the successful candidates at the Benevolent Fund election next week.

LIBRARY REPORT.

The report of the Library, Museum, School, and House Committee was next considered. The report dealt with various administrative matters relating to the school and house. The school staff reported on the various classes and the conduct of the students.

The School-Visitor reported that he had been in consultation with the professors as to the appliances in the lecture-theatre, and also in regard to the heating-arrangements. As a result, he recommended the clearing away of the old furnace, the water-motor, the old fume-chamber, and the obsolete apparatus for exhibiting diagrams. He also recommended the provision of a blackboard the whole length of the wall and modern appliances for exhibiting the diagrams. The probable cost of this would be about 35*l*. Further, he recommended that the lecture-theatre be warmed by hot water, and explained the plan which he and the professors, in conjunction with Mr. Parkinson, thought would be the most efficacious. The estimated cost of the apparatus would be about 100*l*.

In regard to the Museum, the committee further considered the question of the investigation of the specimens referred to by the Curator at the last meeting. Permission was given to the Curator to place, for examination, such specimens as he considered required special investigation in the hands of suitable persons. The committee ordered the bell-metal mortar presented to the Society by Mr. Robbins to be placed in the Council-chamber. Professors Greenish and Wynne reported on the work that is proceeding in the Research Laboratory.

The PRESIDENT, in moving the adoption of the report, said there was nothing for him to make remarks about; but he would be glad if Mr. Carteighe, the school-visitor, would explain what alterations it was proposed to make in the lecture-theatre.

Mr. CARTEIGHE said the theatre was used, not only for school lectures, but as a general meeting-place, and it was notorious that it was the most uncomfortable room in the house. The fact is there are structural difficulties in the way when one comes to make a lecture-theatre in the basement of two houses. When he was President he had tried to think of some better plan of warming the place. The cost of fuel in the present method he was afraid to mention, and there was the difficulty that with the furnaces used it was impossible to properly regulate the temperature. The back wall of the lecture-theatre was riddled with shafts coming from they knew not where, and he was certain that if an insurance-inspector were to see it he would condemn it. It was best to clear it all away. As he had said before, he could not, when he was President, find any better way, but since then the method of using hot water for heating-purposes had developed very much. Mr. Carteighe then gave the result of his observations of the new apparatus at the Chelsea Physic Gardens and Messrs. Wodderspoon's, and from the experience gained he felt justified in recommending the committee to instal a hot-water apparatus. A small

coke fire was all that would be required to heat the circulating water. There would be two radiators in the lecture-theatre, and it was proposed to carry the pipes on each side of the wall and up to the fanlight to keep the upper air warm, and so prevent draughts. The amount of fuel used would be a mere bagatelle; the cost of the apparatus would be saved in four or five years from the fuel bill. The new arrangement would also be safer than the present stoves. Mr. Carteighe next referred to the new blackboard and arrangement for exhibiting diagrams, the object being to make every lecture appeal to the eyes as well as the ears of the student. With the improvements which the Council was asked to sanction they would have appliances which would do credit to any institution. There would always, he continued, be a good number of students, especially for the Major course, as it was recognised it was increasingly necessary to be well prepared for what was now a very stiff examination.

Mr. COOPER was anxious that the warming should be done in the best way possible, as the room was at present a very draughty place. He would like to know how Mr. Carteighe suggested that fresh air should come into the place. Was the fanlight to be open or shut?

Mr. CARTEIGHE: Shut.

Mr. COOPER, continuing, said the management of the supply of fresh air was always a difficulty, but there was an automatic arrangement available such as is used in places of worship for regulating the admission of fresh air.

Mr. CARTEIGHE: Much obliged for the hints.

Mr. YOUNG: I presume we have the money to do the work with?

Mr. CARTEIGHE: We must find the money. It is only a small amount, after all.

Mr. HILLS said, in reference to the paragraph about the Museum, there were unfortunately but few workers available in the Research Laboratory. He hoped more applications from people capable of doing the work would be made.

The report was adopted.

A few vacancies in the divisional secretaryships were filled, and the Council went on to consider a batch of

CORRESPONDENCE.

The first letters were from the examiners, thanking the Council for their appointments.

Next came a communication from the Colonial Office, asking the Council's consideration of a request from the Governor of Barbados as to the conditions upon which the Pharmaceutical Society would conduct examinations in Barbados. The Governor's letter stated that there were several apprentices in the island who were desirous of obtaining a qualification, and asked if the Society would state upon what conditions it would undertake the examination, and what arrangements should be made locally. A copy of the Barbados Pharmacy Act, 1894, was enclosed.

The PRESIDENT: I suppose the answer will be that we are quite willing, but have no power to carry on examinations outside Great Britain.

Mr. GLYN-JONES: I do not think we ought to say that, as the Governor of Barbados could soon get an Act passed to give us the power.

Mr. ROBINSON: The matter should go to a committee. It is impossible to discuss it off-hand. When did the communication come?

The PRESIDENT: It was sent on October 9, and reached here November 10.

The SECRETARY: It arrived since the last Council-meeting.

Mr. ROBINSON: There ought to be some means of having the pros and cons. of the matter laid before us.

The SECRETARY: I formed the opinion that it was *ultra vires*.

Mr. CARTEIGHE: It is not a question of law. We can conduct examinations at the North Pole, if the authorities ask us to.

Mr. ROBINSON: There should be some report on the letter when it is sent to the committee.

The communication was sent to a committee, but it was not decided to which it should go.

PRESCRIBING PROPRIETARY MEDICINES.

The Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association sent a resolution asking the Pharmaceutical Society to point out to the

General Medical Council the undesirability of medical men prescribing patent and proprietary articles in place of pharmacopœial preparations.

A TEST-CASE WANTED.

Mr. Tocher sent from the East Aberdeenshire Association a resolution passed at a meeting at Maud setting forth the Association's loyalty, and humbly petitioning the Council to take a test-case on the titles question.

This was passed to the special committee which is considering the question.

A WARNING.

Mr. St. Cyr, Hayti, sent a letter hereby giving "advice" "that if a new certificate of membership is not transmitted to me, I shall instruct my agent to take proceedings at any cost." The basis of the action was to be the by-laws and previous proceedings of the Society.

The PRESIDENT said the matter had been dealt with at a previous meeting. It was not the custom to issue a duplicate certificate unless there was clear evidence that the original had been destroyed.

MR. YOUNG: What sort of evidence could he bring if the certificate got burnt?

DR. SYMES: It is lost, not burnt.

The rest of the conversation took place in committee.

PRELIMINARY CERTIFICATES.

Two certificates were before the Council for acceptance, one being of a Roumanian State examination. It was proposed to pass them to the Board of Examiners for opinion; but

Mr. GLYN-JONES said that if the certificates had the Council's approval they need not come back.

Mr. CARTEIGHE looked at the Roumanian certificate, and said it was undoubtedly for a higher examination than the Society required.

The PRESIDENT therefore moved that, subject to the approval of the Board of Examiners, the certificates be accepted.

This was agreed to.

THE POISONS COMMITTEE.

Mr. YOUNG presumed that notice had been called to an editorial note in the *Journal* in reference to the proceedings of the Poisons Committee. Would the President state if he knew anything more definite on the subject?

The PRESIDENT: I cannot say anything; but perhaps Mr. Hills would like to make a statement.

Mr. HILLS said, although he had not had notice of the question, Mr. Young's curiosity was natural, and was shared by many others. If he (the speaker) had been in a position to gratify that curiosity he would have liked to have done so. As at the last Council-meeting he desired to protest against the breach of confidence of someone on the Poisons Committee. When he joined the committee he was given to understand that all the proceedings were to be confidential. He had protested at the meeting of the Poisons Committee, but had been unable to find out how the leakage arose. It was quite true, Mr. Hills continued, that the committee met a few days ago, and on the following day paragraphs appeared in some of the daily papers giving more or less accurate information of what took place. He had no desire to be mysterious, but the decision having been arrived at that the evidence should be given in private, he could not make it public until allowed to do so by the Lord President of the Privy Council, or until the report had been allowed to lie on the table of the House of Commons. He had received permission from the Chairman of the committee to make a statement, and would take advantage of it to say that he had considered it his duty to write a minority report.

NEW LEGISLATION

was the title of a long letter addressed by Mr. C. E. Pickering to the Council. The view was expressed, after reading the judgment of the House of Lords in the London and Provincial Supply Association, that

it is still an open question whether, under the existing pharmacy laws, we cannot put a stop to the illicit practice of unqualified dealers in pharmacy exhibiting the title of "chemist" in any form.

We certainly cannot stop them, without fresh legislation, keeping open shop, nor can we hope to do so by the help of Parliament, but it is certainly within the limits of probability that by a new Act we can prevent them dispensing or selling poisonous preparations in every form. For the protection of the public safety it is necessary they should be prevented from so doing. The present laws are incompetent to do this, and it is imperative a new law should be created.

The time is ripe for legislation, he says, even more so than in 1880, and he finds amongst members of Parliament a growing inclination to deal with the matter. He is working amongst members of Parliament to that end, and

one gentleman suggested that as the Pharmaceutical Society's efforts for so many years to secure fresh legislation have proved abortive, and the Privy Council has done so little in the matter, the qualified men throughout the country should present a petition signed by every registered chemist and druggist to the Home Secretary, appealing to him to deal with the matter, when he assured me the best possible results would ensue.

Mr. Pickering further suggests that

First of all "we must be prepared to accept a limitation to the time a widow, executor, administrator, or trustee shall be allowed to carry on business; that the dispensing in all public and private dispensaries and kindred institutions must be in all cases restricted to persons holding the statutory diplomas; and that all persons must practise the calling of pharmacy under their own name. These are the chief essentials. Let every registered man make it his personal duty to press these necessities before his local representative in Parliament. Then, when the new draft Pharmacy Bill comes before them for consideration, the members will be properly enlightened on the subject, and prepared to both safeguard the public health and protect the diplomas of the man they themselves have called into being."

The letter was referred to the Special Committee, as Mr. Carteighe said it involved a legal point.

This ended the public business.

Business Changes.

THE business of Messrs. Steve Jones & Co., chemists, Cardiff, has been sold to Mr. E. D. Edwards, chemist and druggist, late of Knighton Road.

MR. J. S. CLARKSON, pharmaceutical chemist, has acquired the business at 94 Richmond Road, Kingston-on-Thames, formerly belonging to Mr. C. N. Coles.

THE business of Mr. H. A. Carter, 56 London Road, Southampton, has been taken over by Mr. R. H. Fowler, formerly with Bell's, of Oxford Street, London.

MR. W. H. CALEY, chemist and druggist, of Skelmersdale, has taken over the business of Mr. T. F. Thorpe, chemist and druggist, at Earls Barton, Northampton.

THE business of the late Mr. J. H. Bowring, at Diamond Street, Pembroke Dock, will in future be carried on by his son, Mr. W. H. Bowring, chemist and druggist.

THE business of Messrs. M. A. Aitken & Son, grinding and chipping mills, Beddington Corner, Mitcham, will in future be carried on by Mr. Richard Norman Aitken under the same title.

MESSRS. BOOTS (LIMITED) have opened a branch at Western Road, Brighton, with stationery, fancy-goods department, and library. The manager is Mr. F. W. Knowles, chemist and druggist.

MR. TEMPLAR MALINS, chemist and druggist, Cardiff, has given up his premises in Woodville Road, and opened in Queen Street, one of the main business thoroughfares. The shop has been fitted by a local tradesman, and the whole of the stock removed from Woodville Road. The premises there have been taken by Mr. Hugh J. Jones, chemist and druggist, who for five years has been in the employ of Mr. Jesse Williams, of Queen Street. Mr. Templar Malins has registered his business under the Companies Act, the capital being stated at 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares.

CRUDE DRUGS valued at 82,754*l.* were exported from Barcelona last year, against 102,307*l.* in 1900.

Festivities.

THE METRO. DINNER.

On Thursday evening, November 27, the light and leading of pharmacy hobnobbed with the novitiate of the Craft in the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant. The occasion was the ninth annual dinner of the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy, and Dr. Edward Divers, F.R.S., emeritus professor of chemistry, Imperial University, Tokio, presided over a

gathering of about 250 persons. The Chairman and Mr. W. Watson-Will (the Principal) were supported by, amongst others, Dr. F. B. Power, Dr. W. Harrison Martindale, Messrs. Thomas Tyrer, R. A. Robinson, G. Claridge Druee, W. I. Howie, W. Prior Robinson, J. W. Bowen, F. A. Rogers, G. Spratt Taylor, T. Maben, Peter MacEwan, F. Bascombe, A. Cooper, W. S. Glyn-Jones, and Captain D. Peters. An excellent dinner disposed of, the "Glenlivet" appeared, and "The King" was musically honoured. Thereafter

the Chairman, in proposing "The Metropolitan College of Pharmacy," said he was much impressed with what had already been done, and is now being done, by Mr. Watson-Will and his staff, unaided by any pecuniary endowment. He congratulated those students who had won medals; those who had not would be consoled by the conviction that but for the chapter of accidents they also might have been medallists. In a few graceful sentences Dr. Divers then commended the value of honest study as a preparation for a successful career. "I know that you work with a Will," he said, at which there was much laughter; "work also with a purpose, with an end in view, to which all else is subordinate, though not necessarily neglected. Have faith in yourselves, and qualify for the thrilling moment when it shall come. . . . Think of the joy of being prepared for that—of the misery of being unprepared." He then went on to speak of pharmacy and chemistry in the East, and the substance of his remarks will be found on page 935. In his reply Mr. Watson-Will commended Dr. Divers's address to every student. It emphasised the value of that thoroughness which it was the aim of the Metropolitan College to inculcate into every student. The Chairman then distributed medals and certificates to the successful students. The following were the medallists:—

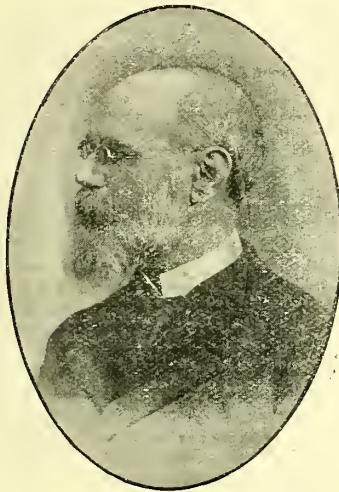
SILVER MEDALS.

A. H. A. Harrington, D. W. Lyall, H. C. Roberts.

BRONZE MEDALS.

Chemistry.—S. H. Vibert, L. Rodhouse, W. M. Ryall.
Pharmacy.—T. J. Rice, L. Rodhouse, H. A. Mills.
Botany.—T. T. Cockings, L. Rodhouse, P. R. Fewtrell.
Materia Medica.—D. W. Lyall, C. B. Baker, H. A. Mills.
Dispensing.—S. Burden, C. B. Baker, H. A. Mills.

Dr. W. Harrison Martindale, in proposing "The Demonstrators," said in his experience, both at home and abroad, he had found the Metropolitan College demonstrators the kindest and most conscientious of any. The toast was responded to by Messrs. H. Lucas, F. E. de Morgan, and D. J. Williams. Mr. Lucas spoke of the Football Club, Mr. de Morgan was glad that there was a chance of the metric system coming into force in this country, and Mr. Williams advocated the pursuit of the higher education. "The



DR. EDWARD DIVERS, F.R.S.

"Students" was proposed by Mr. Peter MacEwan, who regretted the absence of the eloquent Mr. F. J. Boss. Mr. MacEwan read a telegram from Mr. Boss (who is now with Messrs. Roberts & Co., of Paris), which said:—

Les pharmaciens de France souhaitent grand succès à l'école métropolitaine de pharmacie ainsi qu'à Monsieur Watson-Will. From temples of love sweet girls of bright Paris waft kisses and luck from the ruby-brimmed chalice.

This characteristic contribution was received with much laughter. The toast was responded to by Mr. P. Aldham Barker. Mr. W. L. Howie proposed "The Visitors," and Mr. G. Claridge Druce anecdotally replied. Mr. Thomas Tyrer paid eloquent tribute to the power, energy, intellect, and capacity of the Chairman. Dr. Divers was, like himself, he said, a pupil of Hofmann. Before going to Japan, Dr. Divers was lecturer on *materia medica* and toxicology at Birmingham University. He was the first to define the correct formula for ammonium carbonate and to point out the existence of a normal carbonate. During the twenty-six years of his stay in the East his contributions to chemical literature and research had been incessant, and it was his work on the hyponitrites that gained him the Fellowship of the Royal Society. Dr. Divers having replied, "Auld Lang Syne" put a satisfactory finish to an enthusiastic evening. The proceedings were varied by songs contributed by Messrs. W. L. Cockburn and Wilfrid Virgo, by Mr. Fred Wildon's selections on a one-string violin, and by the novel marionette entertainment of Mr. Walter Graham.

BARNESLEY CHEMISTS' DINNER.

The annual dinner of the members of the Barnsley Chemists' Association took place on November 27. Mr. J. B. Ellison (the President of the Association) was in the chair, supported by Alderman Horne, M.D., J.P., Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme (President of the Pharmaceutical Society), and visitors from Dewsbury, Wakefield, and other neighbouring towns. The toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society" was proposed by Mr. A. R. Tomlin, who said they heartily welcomed Mr. Newsholme amongst them, and were glad that the ancient tradition had been broken, and that they had at last a Yorkshireman in the presidential chair of the Pharmaceutical Society. The infusion of a little of the vigour and enthusiasm of the northern counties was a sign of progress.

Mr. Newsholme, in responding to the toast, said it was a great pleasure to visit various towns and meet his colleagues. It broadened one's ideas, enabled one to see different sides of a question, and put one in possession of information which was very helpful in carrying out the duties of President of the Pharmaceutical Society. Mr. Tomlin had referred to grumblers. Grumbling was only another word for criticism, and he did not object to criticism so long as it was fair criticism, for it often made men think more deeply of what they were doing, and called attention to some injustice. Those who were sent to the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society tried as well as they could to represent the opinions of their constituents, and if they did not always do so, there was, depend upon it, some very good reason for it. When one had been on the Council some years, one was apt to see things in a different light. He knew that when he first went on the Council he thought he could go there and set a good many things right—and he believed he could if he had had behind him a Pharmacy Act that was workable, and that he could adapt to his views. What they had to do was to work the Pharmacy Act, and particularly in reference to what people called judge-made law—*i.e.*, the interpretations put upon the Act by the Courts. Some of them did not like the Wheellon decision and other interpretations of the Pharmacy Act, but they were bound to take these as part of the law of the land at the present time. He was satisfied that the only good that could possibly come to their craft was through the Pharmaceutical Society. He was a firm believer in provincial associations, and he did not disagree with the West Riding Federation that had been formed, only some of them were very busy men, and, having their bread-and-butter to make, they could not possibly attend all the meetings, if there were going to be so many associations and federations. Referring to the Poisons Committee, Mr. Newsholme said there was no doubt that someone was trying to influence the public as to the direction in

which the report of that Committee should go; and if the report was to be in the direction of what had appeared in the newspapers, it meant the amendment or abolition of the Pharmacy Act itself in so far as the sale of poisons was concerned. The agitation had come from a certain section of dealers—seedsmen, and so forth—who were very anxious that certain things should be sold by anybody other than chemists. If the Committee reported in that direction, and Parliament legislated accordingly, he was bound to ask, What was the good of the Pharmaceutical Society, of the individuals composing that Society, and of the people who had passed the examination? It might be said there was not much money in poisons, but they had got to consider the public; and where was the protection going to be? He urged every member of their calling to join the Pharmaceutical Society, so that it might be backed up in such a way as would enable it to look after the interests both of the public and of those who carried on their craft. With regard to the apprentice-difficulty, perhaps they had hitherto taken apprentices on too long a term, and kept them too many hours of the day. Another reason they did not get youths so readily nowadays was probably the fact that there were so many other callings open to boys—typewriting, various branches of electricity, &c. Then there were parents, he was surprised to find, who objected because they did not like the idea of their boys becoming "shopkeepers." The chemist's calling was, in his opinion, as respectable as any it was possible to choose, and perhaps this apprentice-difficulty would prove to be only a passing crisis, which would soon right itself, especially in view of the increased facilities for secondary and higher education. He was bound to come to the conclusion, however, that their business must go through the fire. It is going through the fire now, and it would eventually come out more the business of a pharmacist than of a general store as carried on at present. It might be there would be fewer men in the trade, but that the business itself would become very much better than it is now. For those who were going through the crisis it was an unfortunate thing, but this was a matter of hope. (Applause.)

Other toasts followed.

EASTBOURNE CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

On November 27, at the Royal Restaurant, Eastbourne, this Association held a very successful smoking-concert, when there were present some sixty members and friends. It was designed as a farewell concert to Mr. E. W. Jones (Vice-President) and several other members who are leaving the town. Mr. Jones was presented with a silver cigarette-case, as a token of esteem. The concert was most enjoyable and much appreciated.

A WHOLESALERS' DINNER.

The sixth annual dinner and smoking-concert of the staff of Messrs. C. J. Hewlett & Son, of Charlotte Street, E.C., was held on November 29 at Kohler's Wool Exchange Restaurant, and Mr. E. J. Millard presided over a good attendance. After an excellent repast the tables were cleared and the musical part of the programme followed. Songs by Messrs. W. Hunt, J. Davis, and V. C. Hewlett secured encores, and the comic songs of Messrs. Will Cragg and E. Thompson caused much amusement. Mr. R. Rowley, the "lightning cartoonist," made some very clever sketches, and Mr. Frank Allman's recitations were much applauded. In responding to the toast of "The Firm," proposed by Mr. H. Fesenmeyer, the Chairman mentioned that during the last ten years it had been found necessary to extend their premises twice by absorbing adjacent property and building new warehouses and offices. The Chairman proposed the health of Mr. V. C. Hewlett, who expressed pleasure at being present. Thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings. The Hon. Secretary (Mr. Gillard), who had charge of the arrangements, was deservedly complimented.

TEA OIL valued at 2,577*l.* (2,127 cwt) was exported from Foochow last year, against 1,611*l.* (1,307 cwt.).

THE POSTMAN FOUND IT.—Messrs. S. F. Goss (Limited) 201 Regent Street, W., send us the envelope of a letter recently addressed to them from Paisley as follows:—"To the largest chemists' and druggists' shop on the left side of Regent Street going towards Oxford Street. It is at a corner and not far from incubators. London."

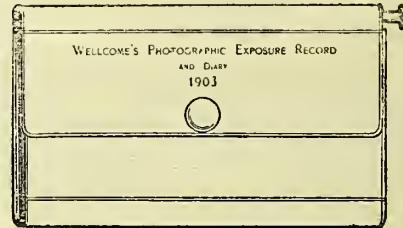
Trade Notes.

LOCKYER'S PORTFOLIO AND BLOTTER FOR 1903 is a new departure in get-up. It contains a goodly number of half-tone views, reproductions of eight Wilkie masterpieces, and a thick pad of blotting-paper, with postal and general information and calendar. It is published by Mr. J. E. Lockyer, wholesale photographic chemist, 244 Evelyn Street, Deptford, S.E., and he will send a copy to any *C. & D.* subscriber for 3*d.*

SHOWING BRUSHES.—The monthly supplement of Messrs. G. B. Kent & Sons (Limited), of Farringdon Road, E.C., contains an illustration of a useful shaving-brush showcase for counter use. The case, which looks handsome, costs 6*l.* 17*s.* complete, or 10*s.* for the case only. Another toothbrush-case (price 15*s.*) is supplied in wood, covered with dark leather and velvet lined. Handsomely decorated hair and cloth brushes make suitable Christmas presents, and many patterns are illustrated in the list.

A NEW GLASS-FACTORY.—The business of Messrs. Jules Lang & Co., of 16 Bury Court, St. Mary Axe, E.C., was established nearly half a century ago. The volume of trade has so largely increased within the past few years that Messrs. Lang & Co. have built glass-works of their own at Eu, France. These works are fitted with every modern improvement, and the firm will now be better able to cope with their superabundance of orders. They are now likewise in a position to ensure better and quicker delivery of goods—an advantage which every buyer appreciates.

"WELLCOME'S EXPOSURE RECORD."—The 1903 edition of this useful book has just been issued by Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., Snow Hill Buildings, E.C. A



new feature is an ingenious mechanical exposure calculator, placed on the inside of the back cover. The calculator dispenses with multiplication or division in estimating exposures, and is adapted for any plate or developer. The other features of the "Exposure Record and Diary" have been retained, and in some cases have been improved by being re-written. The green canvas cover of the little book, familiar to photographic chemists, has been retained in the shilling edition, but a more expensive style, in red leather and with a wallet, has this year been brought out, to retail at 2*s.* The terms to dealers are liberal, and a supply of advertising-leaflets is sent on demand. The illustration shows the style of the *édition de luxe*.

MR. F. C. TILNEY.—The artist who has designed the covers of several special issues of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, has turned his attention recently to playing-cards and produced the Shakesperian pack, and Messrs. Swan Sonnenchein & Co. (Limited), Paternoster Square, E.C., publish them. The idea underlying them is embodied in the following paragraph:—

The characters of the Court cards are selected from the plays of Shakespeare, and are chosen so as to fall within a classification that the pips may be assumed to typify. Thus the Heart betokens the gentler emotions; the Diamond, wealth or greed; the Club, aggressiveness and strife; and the Spade, the tragic methods of schemers. Such a classification readily suggests the following characters:—In the Hearts: King Lear, the young Queen in "Richard II," and Lance; in Diamonds: the King in "Hamlet," Catherine of Aragon, and Jack Poin; in Clubs: King John, Margaret of Anjou, and Pistol; in Spades: Richard III, Lady Macbeth, and Jack Cade the rebel. For the most part, no use has been made of the plays dealing exclusively with classic times or foreign lands. The quotation on each card consists of words actually spoken by the character depicted.

The designs are exquisite, and historically accurate. The cards retail at 2*s.* 6*d.* a pack.

Winter Session.

Society of Chemical Industry.

LONDON SECTION.

THERE was little of pharmaceutical interest at the meeting held at Burlington House, W., on December 1. Mr. Walter F. Reid was in the chair, and the first paper, by Mr. A. MARSHALL, referred to the influence of impurities on

THE SP. GR. OF SULPHURIC ACID.

The investigation was undertaken because it was found that new sulphuric acid was denser than acid which had been used in dynamite-manufacture and repurified. The difference was found to be due to impurities—the sulphates of sodium, calcium, aluminium, iron, lead, and magnesium, arsenic, nitric and nitrous acid, and water. Mr. Marshall, using Lunge's tables for determining the strength of sulphuric acid from the sp. gr., has re-calculated and stated them in a form which he believes will be more useful to manufacturers. Mr. GUTTMANN and the CHAIRMAN were the only members who contributed to the discussion, the former remarking that it was well known that Lunge's tables were inaccurate for high densities. Nitric acid was probably added in the manufacture of sulphuric acid to get rid of organic matter, and not entirely dissipated in the subsequent processes.

Mr. R. FORBES CARPENTER, chief alkali-inspector, next read a paper by himself and Mr. J. E. Linder on the interaction of sulphurous and nitrous acids as affecting various absorbents employed in testing the gases escaping from vitriol-chambers. The paper—a very long one—detailed a large number of experiments undertaken as to the best absorbents for alkali-inspectors' use, and dealt with the various theories of the reactions which take place in the chamber.

The last paper, given to a 'thin' house, was a note on the determination of

THE STRENGTH OF SULPHURIC ACID.

Mr. MARSHALL, after referring to the method of making standard solution of sulphuric acid by diluting and calculating the strength from the sp. gr., said that in the course of his work he had discovered it is possible to find the strength of sulphuric acid from the amount of contraction which takes place when equal parts of the acid and water are mixed. A table of the results is to be published.

Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association.

DR. GEORGE CUNNINGHAM gave a lecture on

THE CARE OF THE TEETH,

under the auspices of this Association, at the New Museums Lecture Theatre, Cambridge, on November 28. The President (Mr. A. Sidney Campkin, J.P.) was in the chair, and there was a good attendance.

The PRESIDENT, in introducing the lecturer, spoke of Dr. Cunningham's services in awakening public interest on such an important question as the care of the teeth, and referred to his appointment by the Government to inquire as to the means of preventing "phossy jaw" among matchmakers. Dr. Cunningham, he said, was a pioneer in this matter, one whose whole life had been devoted to the extension of conservative dentistry.

Dr. CUNNINGHAM said he recognised that the Association took an interest in public health, and that by their invitation they felt that dentists, as well as the scientists and the medical men, could help. Emphasis was laid on the importance of removing the "milk" teeth at the proper time, the lecturer saying, amid laughter, that it was no unusual thing for undergraduates to come to Cambridge with baby-teeth. Experts, he contended, should control the mouth of the patient. Especially was this the case among the poorer classes. A little done during school-life would save much trouble and be useful in after-life. Dealing with mistaken notions, he said the bulk of the people believed that the sixth tooth was a temporary one. No greater mistake could be made: the tooth was the keystone of the whole arch.

Clean teeth did not decay, and the toothbrush was mightier than the dentist. Thomas Atkins now had his toothbrush—kept in his haversack for inspection-day. (Laughter.) "Now you," said the doctor in a tone of candour, "as chemists, know something about the cost of a toothbrush. I know the price of a Government one: they expect a good one for 3d. They cannot get it made at the price." Among the excellent limelight projections used to illustrate the lecture was one showing a number of toothbrushes, the smaller ones being recommended by the lecturer. The Government toothbrush, thick and stodgy, was commented on, Dr. Cunningham stating that if they wanted the supply altered they would have to get the approval first of the superintendent of the army-clothing place at Pimlico. A toothbrush was ranked as hosiery! Next they would have to obtain the support and approval of the head of the Army Medical Department, and, finally, they would have to go to the Ordnance Department, which deals in cannons. That showed why they did not get on so quickly with their processes of reform as they should. Referring to the President's allusion to his services as a Government official, Dr. Cunningham said "phossy jaw" did not now exist as a practical question in this country. The care of the teeth was not only good for themselves, but good for the community, and especially for the wage-earning classes, who could not afford to pay for the luxuries of dentistry. Preservation of the teeth should not be the luxury of the rich; it was the necessity of the poor. (Applause.)

The proceedings concluded with votes of thanks to the lecturer and to the Chairman.

Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on November 26, at 9.15 P.M., Mr. J. W. Plenderleith (President) in the chair. Mr. D. B. DOTT read a paper on

PHARMACEUTICAL STANDARDS.

Taking the dictionary meaning of the word "standard"—"that which is established as a rule or model, by the authority of public opinion or by custom; criterion; test; the proportion by weight of fine metal and alloy established by authority"—it is evident, said Mr. Dott, that the fundamental idea of a Pharmacopoeia is standardisation, that the various preparations should be of the desired potency. The old method of attaining this end, and the method still followed in the great majority of cases, is to select a drug of good quality and to extract it with a given amount of menstruum. As medicine became a more exact science, it was found that some of the more powerful drugs vary too much in strength to admit of a sufficiently constant preparation being made merely by using fixed proportions. Opium, from its manner of collection, and still more by clever adulteration, was found to vary very much in morphine-strength. The first advance was to obtain a powdered opium of ascertained strength and to make the various preparations from it. But, apart from the question of adulteration, other powerful drugs vary seriously in their proportions of active principle according to their conditions of cultivation and the time of year and manner of harvesting. Belladonna-root varies from 0.4 to 0.8 per cent. of alkaloid, and ipecacuanha and nux vomica are about as variable. Consequently, the modern Pharmacopeias adopt methods of standardisation based on the estimation of the total alkaloids or of the principal alkaloid present in the preparations of the drugs referred to. Generally speaking, the methods given in the British Pharmacopoeia for standardising the galenicals have received a good deal of adverse criticism. Opium and belladonna have not been so much attacked, but cinchona, ipecacuanha, and nux vomica have received a good deal of attention from the analytical reformers. Not only have the processes been criticised, but some authorities think the alkaloids are not always so completely estimated as they should be. Nux vomica, for instance, might have the brucine determined as well as the strychnine. There is probably as much reason for determining all the alkaloids in opium besides the morphine.

In the sp. grs. of tinctures, Mr. Dott's experience agrees in the main with that of Mr. J. C. Umney and with the

schedule of the L.G.B. of Ireland. Yet there are exceptions, a few being just outside the limit on the light side and a few just outside the limit on the heavier side, due doubtless to some difference in methods of working. In a Pharmacopoeia which is specially a manual for retailers it should never be forgotten that a spirituous preparation cannot be filtered in the ordinary way without appreciable loss of alcohol. The L.G.B. standards are referred to as minima, but they are not so in all cases. The percentages of alkaloid given are the same as in the B.P. In the case of *vinum ipecacuanha* not the slightest allowance is made for possible loss of alkaloid, and the percentage of alkaloid is given to the fourth place of decimals—a degree of accuracy which is the merest affectation in respect of the official process. There is a similar absurd minuteness in regard to tinct. quin. ammon., where the ammonia is stated to be 0·946 per cent., without any mention of the amount of quinine.

But the most objectionable feature of the recent attempts at standardising is, Mr. Dott said, the specification of the percentage of extract, or total solids. He agreed with what Mr. Henderson said in a recent discussion, that the amount of extract is in many cases of no importance, and affords no indication of the medicinal value of the preparation. In a thing like *taraxacum*, in which the active principle (if any) has not been determined, or in any case where no satisfactory method has been devised for the determination of the amount of active principle, there may be some meaning in demanding a given percentage of extract; but presumably no one will suggest that the mere extractive is of importance in the liquid preparations of *belladonna*, *ipecacuanha*, *nux vomica*, or even *cinchona*. The British Pharmacopoeia allows a little latitude; leaves something to the judgment of the pharmacist, and several authorities have amplified the latitude. It is generally conceded that a method which is suitable for making a pint of liquid extract may be very ill-adapted for the preparation of a hundred gallons. One authority has told us that the manufacturer must modify his process so as to produce on the large scale an article similar in appearance and properties to that produced by the pharmacopeial quantities. Among manufacturers the use of coarser powders in percolating is one very general departure from the letter of the Pharmacopoeia which may influence the extractive content. One effect of this modification is that the alkaloids do not pass into the menstruum in the same ratio to extractive as when working with a finer powder. The L.G.B. standard for extractive in extract. *belladonnae* liquid, is 11 per cent. (minimum). Mr. Umney gives 13 per cent. as an average, and the speaker had a sample prepared strictly B.P., except that the root was in coarser powder, and found only 10·2 per cent. extractive, with a sp. gr. 0·919. This shows that Mr. Umney is right in allowing a maximum of 0·925. The L.G.B. allows only 0·905. For ext. ergotæ liquid. Mr. Dott allows 1·030, but the total solids is assumed to be of more importance. Mr. Umney puts the average as 15; the L.G.B. a minimum of 12 per cent.; whilst the speaker found a sample prepared strictly B.P. to give 11·48 per cent. The sample tested recently contained 13·56. He did not agree that the minimum for ext. cascara sag. liquid. should be 1·054. A good preparation may be 1·048. Twenty per cent. is a reasonable minimum for extractive. Ext. hydrastis liquid. may yield only 18 per cent. when well exhausted, and it would not be safe to fix the minimum above 17 per cent. For extract. glycyrrhizæ liq. the L.G.B. gives a maximum sp. gr. of 1·128. Mr. Umney gives 1·136. The latter is right.

As regards the amount of alcohol which should be contained in the various galenicals the L.G.B. schedule is in nearly every instance reasonable, though a few of the minima are very near the maxima.

In regard to resins and oleoresins, the author thought Mr. Umney's figures misleading. *Podophyllum*, he says, should give 5 per cent. resin by precipitation of spirit extract; "Pharmacopedia" says 4 to 6 per cent.; "Pharmacographia" says 3½ to 5, which agrees with his own experience, and 3½ is much more common than 5 to 6·5 per cent. of resin is, no doubt, sometimes obtained from rad. *scammoniae*, but nearly all authorities give a much lower percentage. "Pharmacographia" gives 5·5 per cent. C. J. Biddle, in a series of experiments, found 2·83 to 5·24 per cent. *Capsicum* rarely gives 15 per cent. of oleoresin to ether; 10 per cent.

would be nearer, but the yield is very variable. The same may be said of ginger; 8 per cent. of spirit extract is a large yield. It is sometimes only 6, and may be as low as 4 per cent. There is no harm in calling a good yield an average, only one would need to be careful not to condemn a drug or a preparation made from it, because it did not come up to the higher standard.

Mr. Dott then entered into the question of stating minima standards. He was inclined to the view that it is better to fix on one figure as the standard, and to permit a small variation from it.

DISCUSSION.

Mr. C. F. HENRY said he did not think a discussion on the subject of standardisation would have been complete without an expression of the views of one so well known as an authority as Mr. Dott. As they were aware, the matter had been brought into its present prominence in connection with the practice of contracting for the supply of drugs to the Irish Poor-law Boards. One thing had struck him in considering the matter. It seemed possible, if not easy, to make a concoction which would contain the standard quantity of morphine required in tincture of opium, but they had no guarantee that the other constituents, such as codeine, might not have been removed. He thought it might be desirable to have a test by which the presence of the other active principles would be guaranteed.

Mr. J. R. HILL thought the large body of publicanalysts who had been recently appointed seemed in many instances nervously active and inclined to an excess of zeal. The Food and Drugs Acts were designed to protect the public against gross adulterations and substitutions that were fraudulent and injurious to public health. Many of the prosecutions were petty and went beyond this original intention so as to needlessly harass those who had to supply the public. He instanced the linseed-meal and vinegar cases as examples of this tendency. He was of opinion that the plan of having standardised powdered drugs was worthy of more consideration. In the case of *nux vomica* it was easy to make a perfectly reliable and constant tincture from a standard powdered seed by merely percolating with the menstruum till the percolate ceased to indicate alkaloid with an alkaloidal precipitant. One difficulty in fixing a standard was the tendency to keep down to it. Recently it had been authoritatively decided that milk must contain at least 3 per cent. of milk-fat. He was informed that in large creameries where hundreds of gallons of milk were collected and then distributed, it was customary to estimate the fat and dilute with water to the official standard. It was quite evident that probably in the near future drug-standards would be imposed which would affect all pharmacists. It was, therefore, of the utmost importance that pharmacists should earnestly study the subject, and insist upon the observance of reasonable prudence and common sense as a governing principle in the fixing of such standards as were to be established.

Mr. E. O. ROWLAND agreed with the suggestion that tincture of *nux vomica* might be made from the seeds and all the bother of making the fluid extract avoided, and he thought this method might be used for other preparations.

Mr. KELLY said it would be an improvement if the plan was adopted of making preparations of opium and *nux vomica* and such like from the powdered drugs. The consequence of the existing method was that these preparations were purchased ready made. Formerly, when powdered opium was used, they made laudanum in most pharmacies, but he questioned if many chemists made it now. With regard to the vinegar-prosecutions he thought they were quite justified. Vinegar was a food, and contained a considerable proportion of phosphates, and it could not be said that dilute acetic acid was a proper substitute.

The CHAIRMAN, in conveying the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Dott, said standardisation processes looked very simple on paper and in theory, but Mr. Dott had shown that they were attended with considerable difficulty in practice. It had been said that there was a possibility of making up an imitation laudanum from extractive and colouring matter and adding to it the required amount of morphine. He thought there should be some means of detecting a fraud of that kind, and the official standardisation method did not meet it.

Mr. DOTT, in reply, said he did not think anyone would attempt the kind of fraud the Chairman alluded to, because it would cost more to obtain the morphine in a separate state and add it to a mixture than to supply it in the form of opium.

Mr. J. R. HILL then gave an exhibition of microscopic objects, for which he was thanked.

Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland.

THE committee of this Society met at Belfast on November 26, Mr. John McConkey in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted.

Mr. W. G. Froggell (Portstewart) and Mr. Hugh Graham (Belfast) were elected members, and Mr. W. J. Busby and Mr. R. J. Stevenson (Belfast) were elected associates.

It was decided to hold the annual concert early in January, Messrs. W. J. Gibson, R. A. Jamison, W. J. Busby, John Fraekelton, and the Hon. Secretary to act as a committee to make the necessary arrangements.

The TREASURER reported that a considerable number of subscriptions for 1902 were still unpaid, and hoped the committee would assist in getting them collected early.

PRICES COMMITTEE.

A report from the last meeting on this matter, together with a resolution, was unanimously passed, urging the traders of Belfast to unite in arranging a price-list of patent and proprietary articles. Considerable discussion took place. It was considered that even if only 95 per cent. of those in the city agreed it would be a decided gain to all, as so many articles on the market at present show so small a margin of profit in handling. After a long discussion a committee was appointed to draw up a list of articles and suggested prices, and solicit the views of all those in business in Belfast before finally issuing the list.

The committee consists of Messrs. Carse, Kee, Busby, Brown, Achison, Gibson, Fraekelton, and the Hon. Secretary.

P.A.T.A. CONVENTION.

Mr. RANKIN hoped some good would result from the P.A.T.A. Convention held in London that day, and said Ireland should not have been entirely ignored as it had been. The Chemists' and Druggists' Society was about the first body to take action on the question. Even before the P.A.T.A. was in existence the Society had a printed list, and their members all signed an agreement not to sell below certain prices. When the P.A.T.A. was started the Society passed resolutions, and sent them to all proprietors, urging them to place their goods on the list.

The committee afterwards adjourned.

Midland Pharmaceutical Association.

AT the Birmingham University on November 27, Mr. H. S. Shorthouse, F.C.S., lectured to this Association on

SCIENTIFIC BEE-CULTURE.

The chair was taken by Sir JAMES SAWYER, who said his researches had led him to the conclusion that in honey we have a useful demulcent and emollient, as well as a most valuable nutrient and evacuant. The LECTURER dwelt at length upon the apparatus used for the collection of honey, and, referring to the changes which have been made during the last twenty years or so, pointed out that American methods have been adopted in this country with good success. An American hive which is largely used is in the form of a two-storeyed box supported upon four feet, the lower compartment being used as a brooding-compartment, and the upper as a store place for the honey. The lecturer showed how by an ingenious diaphragm the working bees are allowed to pass from the lower chamber to the upper, whilst the queen bee can in no circumstances make the journey. Alluding to the arrangement of the boxes for the deposition of the honeycomb, Mr. Shorthouse mentioned the probability that the paraffin sometimes found in wax might originate here. Dealing with the queen bee in particular, he recommended a food made up of sugar and peameal baked carefully. He

mentioned that he had secured specimens of the queen bee from various countries, and produced for inspection the receptacles in which they had travelled. In one which came from America the bees were alive and unhurt after being nearly a month on the journey. Passing on to discuss the bees' enemies, Mr. Shorthouse said that in the course of his experiments at the Littleton bee-farm, near Evesham, he had found that a species of *Acarus*, earwigs of different kinds, and a tick often play sad havoc in the hives. Finally, he mentioned that the atmosphere of the hive is redolent with formic aldehyde. This, he said, is a new point, and whether it is a result of the collection from the flowers or of the disintegration of sugar of honey he was unable to decide.

The lecture was prettily illustrated. Mr. Shorthouse displayed on the screen the chief flowers the bees visit and various specimens of the queen bee. He was warmly thanked, on the motion of Sir JAMES SAWYER, seconded by Mr. F. H. ALCOCK.

Northampton Chemists' Association.

THE monthly meeting of this Association was held at the Black Boy Hotel, Wood Hill, Northampton, on November 28, the President (Mr. W. D. Mayer) in the chair. The recent P.A.T.A. Conference was discussed at some length, but no further resolution upon the subject was passed. Upon the motion of Mr. W. MCKINNELL, seconded by Mr. A. ARMITT, it was decided to ask Mr. Ingle to read a paper at the January meeting. The HON. SECRETARY (Mr. F. Cowdery) promised a paper on "Substitution" at the next meeting, which is to be held on December 19.

Wakefield Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held at the Victoria Temperance Hotel, Wakefield, on December 2, the President (Mr. W. Pollard) in the chair. Amongst those present were Messrs. R. C. Walshaw (President of the West Riding Federation), Knowles, Chaplin, Duffin, Hodgson, Whaley, Green, Judge (Hon. Secretary), and Messrs. R. Broadhead and S. N. Pickard (Dewsbury).

A paper was read by Mr. WALSHAW, dealing with the merits and demerits of the

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY,

in which he deprecated the fashion of deerring the Society and all its works. After tracing the history and development of the Society and of the Pharmacy Acts, he pointed out that there was still little restraint on the sale of drugs and the dispensing of medicines. There was much to be done yet by legislation in that respect, and he thought all chemists should support the Society to enable these good things to be obtained. He held further that the Society had power to prevent the misuse of the titles. The Society was the only medium through which the legal betterment of the qualified chemist could be accomplished.

The PRESIDENT, Mr. PICKARD, Mr. CHAPLIN, and Mr. BROADHEAD discussed the paper in favourable terms.

Bradford Chemists' Association.

AT the meeting of this Association on December 2, at the Royal Hotel, Bradford, the President (Mr. J. A. Mitchell) presiding, a paper was read by Mr. D. S. PRIESTLEY, of Bradford, on

COLLECTIVISM & INDIVIDUALISM.

After contrasting the working of gas and water supplies and tramways as between corporate undertakings and private companies, to the advantage of the former, Mr. Priestley pointed out that the collective system as illustrated in the drug-companies was superior to that of the private trader in many ways. Under a collective system, he believed, individual chemists could sell their goods at lower prices and yet make larger profits. Those members of the Bradford Association who had been connected with its buying-department had found that a very considerable saving could be effected by co-operative purchasing of proprietary articles direct from the manufacturer. In his own case he had laid

out a sum of 5*l.* in connection with the scheme, and the extra profit he had been able to make through the scheme had been 2*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.* from January 1 to November 17 of the year. If this amount could be saved by combined purchasing direct from the manufacturers of articles on which the wholesalers' profits in many instances were only 5 per cent., was it not obvious that they could save much larger amounts relatively by purchasing from the makers goods on which the wholesaler made 15 per cent.? In the same way, bicarbonate of soda, borax, glycerin, &c., could be purchased at a considerably greater proportionate saving. In these cases the cost of distribution, warehouse-room, and labour would have to be taken into account, but with good management this would not be a serious consideration. All galenical preparations and drugs that it was advisable to buy in the manufactured form could be bought from samples passed by their own analyst. Such things as nipple-shields they could build up. There were five parts, all coming from different sources and on which the wholesaler made five distinct profits. Even if it were true, as he had been told, that the wholesalers' profits on them were so small that it would not pay the retailer to make them up, no one would deny that the wholesaler would quote a different price if "Bradford Chemists (Limited)" asked for a quotation for ten gross for spot cash from what would be quoted to a chemist for half-a-dozen and three months' credit. The same thing applied to feeding-bottles, soothers, &c. In regard to the manufacture of galenicals, amongst the fifty chemists of Bradford there would be twenty-five at least who made their own tinctures. Why should twenty-five men be employed in making 25 half-gallons of tr. *rhei* when one man, with one-quarter of the percolators and one-twenty-fifth of the presses to squeeze the marc, could produce an equally good preparation at a cheaper price? They could also run their own aerated-water factory.

Mr. Priestley's paper was subjected to criticism, mainly hostile, by the PRESIDENT, and Messrs. HANSON, WADDINGTON, MARSHALL, DUNN, SILSON, and SMITHIES.

The Secretary (Mr. Wilcock), who is about to embark in business at Newcastle, was thanked for past services by Mr. WADDINGTON, Mr. MARSHALL, and the PRESIDENT, who each expressed deep regret at the loss to the Association from his departure. Mr. D. S. Priestley was nominated Secretary in his stead.

Cardiff Pharmaceutical Association.

THE annual meeting was held at the Park Hotel on Wednesday. Mr. Robert Drane presided, and there was a very good attendance.

THE REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

which was read by Mr. A. J. BELLAMY (the Secretary), stated that the high standard reached by the Association in the first year of its existence had been well maintained. Considerable progress had been made with the proposed educational scheme for Minor students in connection with the Cardiff University College, and although they had received a temporary check owing to monetary considerations, it was hoped that in due time the scheme would be carried out. The system of co-operative buying still proved a source of profit to the members.

The report having been adopted, the TREASURER (Mr. A. Hagon) submitted the balance-sheet for the year, which showed that a deficit of over 5*l.* at the last annual meeting had been converted into a small surplus. The PRESIDENT urged the adoption of a half-guinea subscription. It was impossible, he said, to work an organisation of this sort on a 5*s.* subscription.

NEW OFFICERS.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by Mr. A. HAGON, Mr. Jabez A. Jones was unanimously elected President; Mr. Hopkins, of Barry, was re-elected Vice-President; Mr. R. Drane was appointed Treasurer; and Mr. R. Mumford was elected Secretary for the coming year. The following were appointed to the Executive Committee: Messrs. H. W. Dix, H. A. Gerhold, J. L. Jones, J. D. Jenkins, H. S. Fargher, A. Hagon, A. J. Bellamy, Templar E. Malins, and A. Coleman.

Mr. A. HAGON, one of the delegates appointed to attend the

P.A.T.A. CONVENTION,

gave a report of the proceedings. He considered the Conference was very successful, and he believed the trade would be greatly benefited by it. The PRESIDENT agreed, and expressed his views on the subject. Mr. Drane and Mr. Hagon were thanked for acting as delegates to the Convention.

Blackpool Chemists' Association.

THE monthly meeting was held at the Palatine Hotel on Tuesday, December 2, the Vice-President (Mr. C. H. Turver) in the chair. Messrs. Lofthouse (Fleetwood), Ashton, Buckley, Boothroyd, and Mayson were amongst those present. The HON. SECRETARY (Mr. J. Sankey) read letters received in regard to the P.A.T.A. Convention. Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., in their letter, drew attention to their efforts on behalf of chemists in times past, and their desire for his future welfare. Mr. Thos. Beecham considered a mutual local arrangement among retailers was the best thing. He also mentioned that letters of complaint had reached him, wherein Blackpool chemists were charged with selling at 1*s.* instead of the customary 10*d.* The Secretary also read letters from Messrs. F. B. Benger & Co., Mellin, Horlick, and A. J. White. No replies, he said, had been received from Messrs. J. M. Richards, Dinneford, Winslow, Owbridge, or Fenning. He considered that Mr. Glyn-Jones deserved the highest praise and best thanks for his strenuous efforts on behalf of chemists generally, and as this seemed to be the unanimous opinion, the Secretary was requested to write to that effect to that gentleman. It was resolved, on the proposition of Mr. LOFTHOUSE seconded by Mr. ASHTON, that the following be sent to Mr. Glyn-Jones:—

That this meeting of the Blackpool and Fylde Chemists' Association pass a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Glyn-Jones for the great effort he has made in arranging and drawing together such a representative body of chemists and manufacturers of proprietaries to the Convention held in London November 25 and 26, and trust the meeting will increase the popularity of the P.A.T.A. to the mutual advantage of all.

TEST-CASE.

The CHAIRMAN opened a discussion on this subject, and after a good debate, in which Messrs. SANKEY, BOOTHROYD, BUCKLEY, ASHTON, and LOFTHOUSE took part, it was, on the motion of Mr. LOFTHOUSE, seconded by Mr. ASHTON, resolved *nem. con.*—

That—it being now about four years since the Lord Chancellor considered legislation desirable to amend the unsatisfactory administration of the Pharmacy Acts—this meeting of the Blackpool and Fylde Chemists' Association urge the Pharmaceutical Council to endeavour to reserve the exclusive right of the use of the title "chemist and druggist" to duly qualified persons only, by means of a test-case or other means, and that it is the opinion of this meeting that chemists should be invited to subscribe to the expenses of such a case if necessary.

OTHER BUSINESS.

A letter was also read from Mr. Mayson, complaining of the sale of methylated spirit during prohibited hours. The Secretary was instructed to bring the matter before the I.R. officials. It was also resolved that Blackpool chemists be asked to close their premises for the Christmas and New Year holidays on December 25 and 26 and on January 1 and 2, excepting between 12 and 1 and between 6 and 8 P.M., and that the usual Wednesday afternoon holiday in each week be not observed.

Mr. MAYSON mentioned the annual dinner, which the SECRETARY said generally took place the second week in January, but the committee would try to arrange an agreeable date.

PERSONAL.—Mr. W. M. Standen, the director of Government cinchona-plantations, has returned to Ootacamund and taken over his duties from Mr. Romilly. At the request of the Madras Government Mr. Standen went to the Continent and visited the laboratory of Professor Schopenhauer to make a study of the chemical analysis of cinchona-bark, and the manufacture of quinine on the most advanced and up-to-date system.

Oriental Pharmacy.

By EDWARD DIVERS, M.D., F.R.S., Emeritus Professor of Chemistry, Tokio University.

The subjoined is the principal portion of an exceedingly interesting speech by Dr. Divers to the students of the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy on Thursday evening, November 27, 1902, as told on page 929.

THE purpose of your training is to enable you to pass the Minor examination, and to do so with credit to yourself and to the system which enforces it. I do not love that system, though examinations now are much more rational tests than they often were when I was a student. I believe we rank first in Europe for the extent to which we make examination by question and answer the door into public life and almost every career. But it is not a pre-eminence to be proud of, and those who think otherwise have to meet the fact that outside Europe we are surpassed by the Chinese, with whom it is usual to keep the candidate in solitary confinement for a week at a time, while he writes out the answers which are at the beginning of his career to make him or break him, to establish him as either a success or as a failure for the rest of his days. It is a deadly system in which not always the unfittest go to the wall. The great objection to the Chinese system and to our own is that one man teaches and another examines. Nothing can be said against examination by the teacher. That is indispensable, and you all know how valuable the examinations are to you which are held in the College itself, and how they aid you in learning. Examination of the pupil by the teacher is perhaps only to be surpassed as a means of education by a turning of the tables—I mean by the pupil questioning the teacher. When the student has to pass examinations by those who have not taught him, his principal business with his teachers is to learn how to pass, a matter harmless, if not good in itself, but whose accomplishment is usually destructive of his chances of being trained into getting a real knowledge of his subjects—an understanding knowledge—such as shall fit him to pursue his studies afterwards unaided. All the time must be given up to preparing for examinations.

I have referred to China, and also to the probability of some of you being drafted abroad for foreign service. Well, if you are you will, I hope, be able to look back with satisfaction on your College course as having equipped you for the special opportunities for study and usefulness that will then probably be afforded you. I pass over the opportunities of studying the natural history of the place where you may be stationed, and shall confine myself to pointing out the importance which your chemical training may then have for you. Occasionally, and not unfrequently, chemical analyses and chemical opinions are wanted by the merchant traders, and for these good fees are forthcoming, and willingly paid. You will find it difficult to keep out of this kind of work, even if you wish to, so that it will be very satisfactory for you to find yourself possessed of the necessary knowledge. In Japan there are Government pharmaceutical laboratories, through which all imported drugs must pass and be labelled "fit for medical use" before they can be used in dispensing or offered for sale. When the decision of these examining laboratories is adverse to the importer he is glad to find in his friend the chemist and druggist some one competent to give him a skilled opinion as to the justice or otherwise of the condemnation. Perhaps the most notable case in my own experience was when the importer of 50 oz. of atropine from Merck, of Darmstadt, had the lot rejected as being not atropine, but hyoscyamine, of many times the value. In utter and natural disbelief in such a finding, the importer referred the matter to me, and I confirmed it. It was not known at that time that *Atropa Belladonna* roots contain hyoscyamine as the principal and almost sole alkaloid, and that the atropine got from it results from the transformation of hyoscyamine by alkali, so that it did seem astonishing that the facts were as found. It may, therefore, safely and charitably be assumed that the very care of this celebrated firm in avoiding the use of caustic alkali in preparing the alkaloid had left it as hyoscyamine unconverted into atropine.

An amusing instance of what may happen is that of another German firm, whose name I have conveniently forgotten, who, in a letter in a German journal of pharmacy, had referred to these Japanese testing-laboratories in terms of commendation, mentioning that their own exports to Japan had always passed the laboratories unchallenged, while many drugs and preparations sent from England had failed to pass. Scarcely had this proud boast appeared in print, when a very large consignment of their *tinctura opii* was condemned as being much under the official strength. The matter was referred to me by their agents, and, alas! I could only confirm the finding of the Japanese pharmaceutical chemists. I am afraid that that firm ceased to contemplate with equanimity the barrier to the entry into Japan of chemical or galenical preparations which are not what they purport to be.

We heard last year a great deal about the presence of arsenic in many British beers, and how best to detect it. Well, whilst I was in Japan there was a very shocking, though interesting, case of arsenic-poisoning with Fowler's solution, to which I only refer in order to mention the admirable analytical and other chemical work done by an English pharmaceutical chemist retained for the defence. Since you do not know when you may be called upon to do purely chemical work, do your best to prepare yourself for it when it comes.

At the present day the native pharmacy of Japan, of China, and of India holds a very subordinate position, particularly in Japan, where European pharmacy has largely taken its place and become the only one recognised by the State. But it is well for us to remember that, in ancient times, India, China, and Japan had got a remarkable knowledge of the subject, which travelled slowly to Europe, not directly, but through Arabia and Greece, and that the world is therefore indebted to Eastern Asia for the foundations of philosophy, medicine, chemistry, and pharmacy. The ancient classification of the tastes remains with us unmodified; sweet, sour, bitter, astringent, pungent, and alkaline. In their national drink, saké, the Japanese find all but the last of these present. In the early centuries of our era, the Hindus had hair-dyes, collyria, and various applications for skin-diseases. The parent pill of Blaud's pills was even in use. Distinction was already made between tonics and directly curative remedies. The calcination of shells to obtain lime was known, and, what is more remarkable, its use in preparing caustic alkali, and the employment of this as an escharotic. The pharmacists of ancient India and China knew the distinction between caustic alkali and mild alkali, and between the three varieties of this, artificial or potassium carbonate, native or sodium carbonate, and borax. They may have known nitre also, but it was not till centuries later that it obtained specific notice in connection with deflagrating powders. You will all have learned about the preparation of nitre in India, whence all the world gets its supply, except where it is made from Chili nitre. Well, before the revolution in Japan forty years ago, nitre was prepared in the same way in that country, a tropical temperature being in no way essential to success. Soon after I went to Japan I saw quantities of it which had been thus obtained, and then paid in as a tax or tribute by the provinces to the Shogun's government, but at the present day all the nitre wanted in Japan is imported from India. The early Indian pharmacists had not the mineral acids at their disposal, though they knew and distinguished between copper and iron sulphates and alum, and seem to have been the first to isolate the metal zinc, which was obtained by distillation from calamine. They made use instead of fruit-juices, such as that of the tamarind. The Japanese fine metal-workers and others still make use of plum-juice and of acetic and lactic acids got by fermentation. In India and China, alum along with salt or with nitre, or both, has been in use both by way of heating together dry, and of boiling in water with the articles, as makeshifts for mineral acids and oxidisers. One interesting example of this is the ancient manufacture of calomel and corrosive sublimate in India and China. These were certainly in use, and distinguished from each other, as early as the twelfth century, probably earlier, whereas such knowledge was only obtained in Europe in the sixteenth century. By heating together salt, mercury, copperas, and alum, calomel is obtained as a sublimate, and by using nitre as well, corrosive sublimate is obtained. Here the alum

liberates hydrochloric acid, with which the oxidised iron sulphate or the nitre yields chlorine, and this combines with the mercury.

A more interesting and really beautiful method of preparing calomel ready for use, without grinding and absolutely free from corrosive sublimate, is practised in Japan. In this process hydrochloric acid is obtained by heating bitttern, or sea-salt mother liquor rich in magnesium chloride, and the bitttern being heated with mercury in an iron pot lined with earth, the mercury vapour and the hydrochloric acid and oxygen from air diffusing into the loose dome-shaped unglazed earthenware lid, produce the calomel.

Westminster Wisdom.

(From our Parliamentary Representative.)

PATENT LAW AMENDMENT BILL.

This Bill has now passed through all its stages in both Houses, and awaits the Royal Assent.

DRUGGISTS AND A BREAD-CONTRACT.

A curious matter was brought to the notice of the Secretary for War the other day by Mr. Tully. It was about a contract for supplying bread to the Victoria Barracks, Belfast, and the Hollywood Barracks, county Down, which had been given, according to Mr. Tully, to a firm of wholesale chemists and druggists in Corporation Street, Belfast, and the Nationalist member desired to know what the War Office meant to do in view of the fact that the firm were, as he called them, "non-bakers," and would be under the necessity of sub-letting the contract. Mr. Brodrick answered by pointing out that bread-contracts, like all other contracts, were given out by the General Officer Commanding. The tender of the firm in question was accepted because it was the lowest sent in. Nothing was known about sub-letting, but inquiry would be made.

BRUSSELS CONVENTION AND CONFECTIONERY.

By the process of question and answer some interesting additional information in regard to the operation of the Brussels Sugar Convention has been placed before Parliament. It appears that British exporters of confectionery and similar goods will share in the benefits derived from Article III. of the Brussels Convention, which limits the surtax, and therefore limits the discrimination against the British exporter to the amount of the surtax. There is no provision in the Convention for equality of import-duty on these goods throughout the various contracting countries. It is also pointed out that there is nothing in Article IV. which imposes an obligation on the contracting Powers to penalise sugar imported from their own colonies. Any possibility of doubt on this point is removed, so far as the British Government are concerned, by a paragraph of the final protocol, which reserves in principle entire liberty of action as regards the fiscal relations between the United Kingdom and its colonies and possessions. The President of the Board of Trade is aware that this view is controverted by some of the Powers who signed the Convention, but the Government's attitude was made perfectly clear to the Conference by repeated declarations of the British delegates. These are embodied in the *procès-verbaux*, and in which it is stated that this country will not in any case apply a penal clause to the self-governing colonies. The Convention was agreed to by the Powers with full knowledge of these declarations.

THE SCOTCH LEAVING CERTIFICATE.

One of the new Scotch baronets, Sir Charles Renshaw, asked a question on Wednesday which is of considerable interest at a time when so much attention is being paid to commercial education, and also in respect of the Pharmaceutical Preliminary. He asked the Lord Advocate whether his attention had been called to the fact that at present Leaving certificates can be obtained in Scotland by scholars, irrespective of age, who pass either in English, mathematics, Latin, and Greek, or in English, mathematics, practical science, and either French or German, or in English, mathematics, French, and German, and that under Circular 340, of

January, 1902, no candidate after 1904 can obtain a Leaving certificate unless he is 17 years of age, and no certificate will be granted for English, mathematics, French, and German except an Intermediate certificate, which may be taken by candidates over 15 years of age; and whether he could give some assurance with a view to prevent the discouragement of higher commercial education, which it has been the policy of the Scotch Education Department to encourage in recent years? In reply, the Lord Advocate explained that, as indicated in circulars more recently issued, the Department proposes to institute a commercial certificate for pupils of a higher age. In such a certificate modern language as suited for the practical purposes of commerce will receive full recognition in accordance with the policy which the Department has for some years pursued with good results.

FOREIGN OFFICE WITHOUT INFORMATION.

One of the latest questions which his daily perusal of Blue-books and Consular reports has suggested to Mr. Weir has reference to the export trade in beverages of Kobé, in Japan. A recently issued report shows that beverages to the value of 21,000^{l.} were exported from Kobé during last year, and Mr. Weir has asked for information as to the nature of the beverages, and what mineral waters are included. Unfortunately for the hon. member's curiosity, the Foreign Office has no information on the subject.

Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations.

A MEETING of the Executive Committee was held in the Kingsley Hotel, London, on Wednesday, November 26, at 5 P.M. Present: Messrs. W. L. Currie, Glasgow (Chairman); G. T. Turner, Bristol; H. Antcliffe, Sheffield; R. Feaver Clarke, Gravesend; and G. F. Merson, Newcastle (Hon. Secretary). Mr. John Smith, St. Leonards (ex-Chairman of the Executive Committee), also was present.

Four months' correspondence was submitted by the Secretary, and his report thereon approved, and much routine business disposed of.

The Secretary intimated that he had been in correspondence with Mr. J. F. Tocher (Peterhead) re

TERRITORIAL REPRESENTATION

on the Pharmaceutical Council. Mr. Tocher had promised to read a paper on the subject at the next annual meeting in Bristol. It was decided to ask him to embody certain suggestions in his communication.

EAST ANGLIAN PHARMACY.

A letter from Great Yarmouth Association was read asking assistance towards forming local Associations in Norwich and Lowestoft, and the Secretary was instructed to communicate with the Divisional Secretaries of the Pharmaceutical Society in these towns with a view to the formation of local Associations.

The report of the

POISONS COMMITTEE,

which is about to be issued, was mentioned, and it was decided that, immediately upon its publication, action should be taken, either by co-operation with the Pharmaceutical Council or otherwise, as may be necessary.

A BROADER BASIS.

It was also resolved that the time had now come when the basis of the Federation should be considerably broadened by increasing the number of the Executive Committee and its scope of action. It was agreed that early in the new year a draft of an amended constitution and rules should be submitted to affiliated Associations for criticism, so as to economise time at the annual meeting. It was further resolved that, in view of the success which attended the action of the Executive in throwing open the annual meeting in Dundee, the annual meeting be held on the Friday of "Conference week," and that an effort should be made to establish a "trade-meeting" as an adjunct to the ordinary meetings of the British Pharmaceutical Conference..

New Companies & Company News.

TEMPLAR MALINS (LIMITED).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, druggists, dry-salters, oil and colourmen, importers and manufacturers of and dealers in artificial teeth and manufacturers of and dealers in proprietary articles, medicinal and other preparations, photographic, surgical, dental, and scientific apparatus, &c. The first subscribers are:—T. E. Malins, 29 Queen Street, Cardiff, chemist; J. Hart, 30 Sapphire Street, Cardiff, dental mechanic; Mrs. F. A. Malins, 114 Whitchurch Road, Cardiff; Mrs. M. A. Alliston, 114 Whitchurch Road, Cardiff; F. Keall, 126 Arabella Street, Cardiff, dentist; A. Lloyd, 52 Harriett Street, Cardiff, chemist's assistant; and F. Tucker, 65 Cathay's Terrace, Cardiff, chemist's assistant. No initial public issue. Registered without articles of association. Registered office, 29 Queen Street, Cardiff.

KARNOID (LIMITED).—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the recipes and full information as to the process of manufacturing and the right to manufacture and deal in a preparation known as "Karnoid," to adopt an agreement with H. J. Dunn, A. B. Scott, R. J. Davis, and J. W. Knott, to manufacture and deal in the said preparation and any proprietary articles, and to carry on the business of patent-medicine vendors, herbalists, drug-merchants, chemists, storekeepers, &c. The first subscribers are:—H. J. Dunn, 20 Broughton Road, Croydon, traveller; E. J. Stannard, 19 Eastcheap, E.C., solicitor; R. J. Davis, 95 Great Saffron Hill, E.C., merchant; J. W. Knott, Escot, Shortlands, Kent, merchant; C. Manwerek, 93 Embleton Road, Lewisham, S.E., clerk; G. H. Short, 13 Cross Street, Hatton Garden, E.C., manager; and A. B. Scott, 95 Great Saffron Hill, E.C., manufacturer. No initial public issue. The first directors are A. B. Scott, R. J. Davis, J. W. Knott, and H. J. Dunn. Remuneration as fixed by the company.

BOOTS' CASH CHEMISTS (EASTERN) (LIMITED).—The general meeting was held at 29 Farringdon Road, E.C., on November 29. Mr. Jesse Boot (Managing Director) in the chair. The Chairman said the profits for the year were not so large as they might have been owing to the cold, wet summer, which hampered the success of the mineral-water department. In the course of his visits throughout the country he was convinced that the trade of the country is not so good as it has been during a cycle of past years. The effects of increased taxation and the burden of the war-expenditure are showing in the spending-power of the great body of the people. This is accentuated by the number of able-bodied reservists who as yet have not been able to find employment on returning from South Africa. This state of affairs is likely to continue for some time. Dealing with the accounts (see *C. & D.*, November 22, p. 854) Mr. Boot said:—

The Chemists' Provident Fund we propose to raise to 7,500*l.*, and we hope that within the next two years it will reach 10,000*l.*, as originally intended. We do not want to stop at 10,000*l.*, all being well; but when that figure is reached we propose to put it into an actuary's hands to draw up a scheme to administer it on definite lines. I hope and think that on an actuarial basis we shall be able to formulate a scheme of benefits by which our managers will be able, when retiring from business, to draw a pension equal to at least half of what they have been receiving whilst actively engaged in the business, to make also a provision for cases of sickness, and some provision for the family of a manager in case of early death. Whilst I think it is only right to do this as a matter of principle, I am sure as a matter of business also it is an advisable thing for a company to do. As I have said before, what we desire is to attract steady and thoughtful men to enter our employ, and to enable them to feel as safe or safer with us than if they were in business on their own account, with the precarious prospect of depending upon what they could save as a provision for old age.

The report was unanimously adopted, Mr. John Gibbs and Dr. E. T. Pritchard being re-elected directors.

CAMWAL (LIMITED).—The annual report and balance-sheet states that trade has suffered during the past year, owing to the wet weather and the King's illness. The directors recommend a dividend of 5 per cent. on the preference, and 2½ per cent. on the ordinary, shares (equal to 7½ per cent. on the original shares). They emphasise the laxity of shareholders in the collection and return of syphons. The completion of the new factory at Bristol and the introduction of "Fontalis" were both commented on. Shareholders do

not seem to have pushed the sale of Camwal waters amongst hotels, &c., so well as they might have done, and this profitable branch is again urged upon them, the company undertaking the supply and responsibility and the chemist taking a fair commission on the business done. The profit-and-loss account shows the gross profits for the year to be 17,975*l.* and the net profit 4,648*l.* The latter, with 539*l.* carried forward, leaves 5,187*l.* for distribution. Of this the proposed dividends will absorb 4,250*l.*, leaving a balance of 937*l.* to be carried forward to meet payment of income-tax, &c. In the balance-sheet "sundry creditors" are stated at 5,953*l.* and "sundry debtors" at 65*l.* The reserve-account against bottles, syphons, soda-fountains, and cases, in stock and customers' hands, at selling-price, is put at 26,514*l.*, while on the credit side are horses, vans, furniture, &c., 2,840*l.*; plant, 12,020*l.*; tablets, giant syphons, &c., 5,763*l.*; syphons, bottles, cases, soda-fountains, &c., in stock, at selling-price, 37,018*l.*; stock-in-trade, 2,233*l.*; due from customers, 13,009*l.*; syphons, &c., on loan, at selling-price, 28,667*l.*

Deeds of Arrangement.

Pomfret, Albert (trading as "Pomfret & Co."), 20 and 22 Lord Street West, and residing at 76 Lynwood Road, Blackburn, Wholesale Druggist and Drysalter. Trustee, Christopher Pollard, 27 Victoria Street Blackburn, accountant. Dated November 18; filed November 25. Liabilities unsecured, 419*l.* 10s. 3d.; estimated net assets, 158*l.* 2s. The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£ s. d.
Blundell, Spence & Co. (Limited), Hull ...	15 0 0
Hirst, Brooke & Hirst, Leeds ...	51 0 0
Jackson, W. & H., Liverpool ...	11 0 0
Pomfret, S., St. Annes-on-the-Sea ...	34 0 0
Raimes & Co., York ...	15 0 0
Yardley & Co. (Limited) ...	11 0 0

Taylor, John, 123 Yorkshire Street, and 107 Entwistle Road, Rochdale, Chemist and Druggist. Trustee, Charles E. Lewis, 3 King Street, Rochdale. Dated November 19; filed November 25. Secured creditors, 690*l.*; liabilities unsecured, 681*l.* 1s. 3d.; estimated net assets, 895*l.* The following are registered as creditors:—

	£ s. d.
Cusson, Mrs. M., Rochdale ...	61 0 0
Maw, S., Son & Sons, Loudon ...	10 0 0
Overseers of the Poor, Rochdale ...	11 0 0
Rochdale Corporation, Rochdale ...	14 0 0
Taylor, Mrs. E., Rochdale ...	435 0 0

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

Billson, H. E., and Coleman, R. G., under the style of the Castle Ink and Stain Company, Leicester, ink and stain makers.

McNair, S., Creighton, G. E., and Fulton, F., under the style of McNair, Creighton & Fulton, Salford, Lancs., surgeons.

Williams, T. G., and Hewitt, H. G., under the style of Williams & Hewitt, Newport, Mon., and Merthyr, Glam., dental surgeons.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

RECEIVING ORDER.

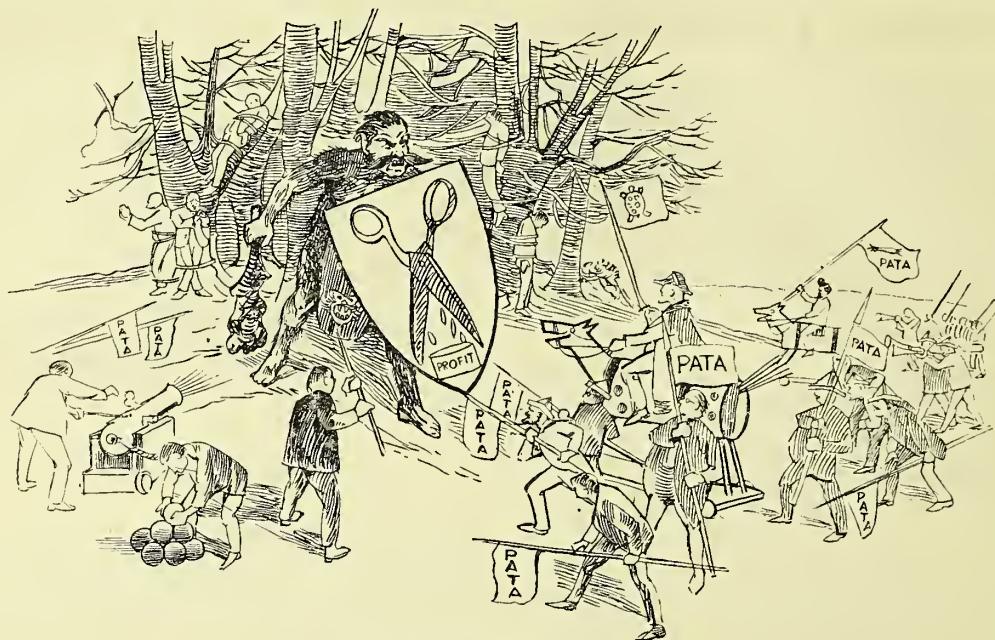
Swindale, Jabez, Consett, Durham, chemist.

ADJUDICATIONS.

Farmer, James, Kennington Road, S.E., veterinary surgeon.

Swindale, Jabez, Blackhill and Consett, Durham, chemist.

Poisonous Serum.—An *Express* correspondent telegraphs from Allahabad that as a result of the anti-plague inoculation scheme in the Punjab, the inhabitants of a village near Gujarat were inoculated with a poisonous serum, instead of Haffkine's remedy, and more than twenty of them died.



The Historic Convention.

To the lords of Convention the Alderman spoke,
"We here are assembled to throw off our Yoke,
And all who are bound by the Cutter to free,
Be he Welshman from Cardiff or Scot from Dundee."

So fire off your speeches and empty your guns;
"Tis making of history, helping your sons.
"Tis a wonderful sight, quite a marvel to see,
This gathering from everywhere—even Dundee."

Then the lords took to talking; their tongues were unloosed,
And the Alderman helped them when things got confused.
They resolved that the way to be happy for aye
Was to get every patent marked "P.A.T.A."

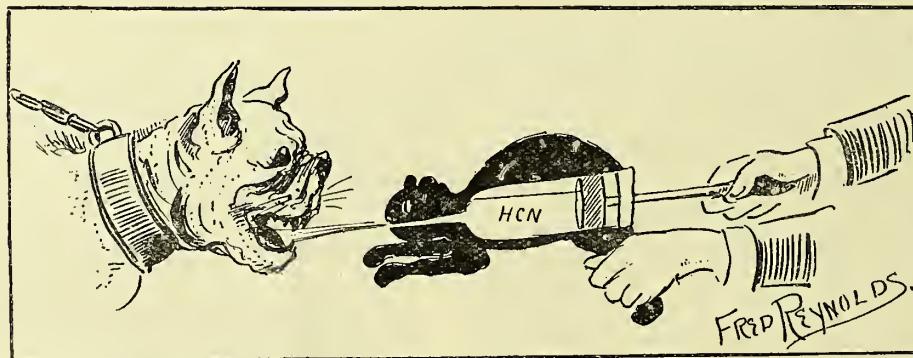
So well they applauded, so loud they acclaimed,
That Chiefs in the Viaduct district complained;
For it frightened them sore to see chemists agree,
And a lawyer was sent with a note, "Instantlee."

The Fisherman spoke, but the delegates grinned,
And welcomed the Men who confessed they had sinned.
They cheered Reuter's message, for Umney went Wylde,
And "private protection" and Grossmith reviled.

So the Fisherman left with a flea in his ear,
While Davenport roused them to cheer after cheer,
And Rogers said straight, if they'd but let him be,
He'd cheerfully pay up a seven-year fee.

The Glinn is triumphant, his banner unfurled,
And hopefulness reigns in the pharmacist's world
But plotting, *sub rosa*, they say, has begun,
And the battle will not be so easily won.

So come ye from Glasgow, and come ye from Leeds,
From Oxford and Cambridge, that next year the deeds
That to-day ye have done may bear fruit, and the tree
That is planted may flourish from Deal to Dundee.



Chemist's Friend and Canine's End.

A MYSTERIOUS DISEASE.—A serious malady has attacked the fruit-trees on the Riviera, affecting not only orange and lemon trees, but even such hardy plants as ivy. The trees are losing their leaves entirely, and it is as yet undecided whether the diminutive star-like excrescences on the leaves are of fungoid or insect origin. An urgent appeal is being made to the French Government for help in investigating and curing the malady.

THE JENA UNIVERSITY.—The new pharmaceutical and analytical chemical institute attached to the University of Jena was opened last month with an address by Dr. H. Matthes, the director. The new institute owes its existence chiefly to the endeavours of Professor Knorr, director of the chemical laboratory, to reinstate pharmacy in its old position at the University. A fine building has been provided, which is fitted up in quite modern style.

Observations and Reflections.

BY XRAYSER.

The P.A.T.A. Convention

was certainly a remarkable demonstration for the drug-trade. I do not remember that the voice of pharmacy has ever been more distinct or unanimous. When chemists' associations from all parts of Great Britain, from Aberdeen to Plymouth and from Cardiff to Grimsby, can be induced to bestir themselves for a single purpose; to send delegates to a London meeting for the promotion of that purpose; and to discuss with unquestionable earnestness, though always in good temper, how best to accomplish their object, we have the elements of a good start at least. Now I should like to know what

The Anonymous Proprietors,

represented by Mr. Urquhart Fisher, think of it all. I do not think Mr. Fisher's communication deserved the "derisive laughter" with which it was received. Mr. Fisher, as solicitor to some eminent firms of proprietors of patent medicines, is certainly not unknown; and there is reason to believe that he wrote on behalf of influential persons. In that case his letter was one of the most interesting items on the programme. It suggested that certain proprietors, who have hitherto ignored the requests of chemists, are now seeing the necessity of at least watching the agitation. When they are convinced that this is sufficiently formidable they may be trusted to drop down on our side of the fence. Probably this first demonstration will not have convinced them. They will recognise that the Convention was skilfully engineered, and they will perceive that it represented a strong body of independent opinion. But they will argue that unanimity on such an issue as whether twopence is preferable to a penny, which is the main point involved, is not astonishing, and they will appreciate very keenly the fact that only about one chemist in three thinks it worth while to back his aspirations with a five-shilling subscription.

The Anti-P.A.T.A. Views

were concisely but effectually expressed by Mr. Beecham from the outside, and by Mr. Davenport from the inside. We are, perhaps, a little apt to forget that the responsibility for the present unsatisfactory condition of the proprietary articles trade rests entirely with us, the retailers, ourselves. The manufacturers originally provided what we should now call a handsome margin, though it seems our predecessors in the pre-cutting days rather snuffed at it when they got it all. We, or some of us, having reduced the 40 per cent. which was designed for us, first to 25, then to 10, and finally to *nil*, now in our distress round on the poor proprietor and claim his assistance to get us out of the hole which we digged for ourselves. This is apparently the truth which Mr. Beecham in courteous language asks us to realise. And it is quite a fair reply so far as it goes. Mr. Davenport drove the nail further home. You delegates, he said in effect, represent a minority of the trade only. That minority may be enthusiastic, but what about the majority? Proprietors whom you urge to alter their methods of business are bound to take them into account. You promise them your good will if they accede. They consult other proprietors who have associated themselves in your plan as to the benefits they have derived, and few of these, Mr. Davenport believed, could give an enthusiastic answer. This was straightforward talk; it was painful but serviceable surgery; and its moral was, "Come again next

year with 5,000 subscribers at your back, and you can then talk to the unconverted proprietors more effectively, and more angrily, if you wish."

While Admitting the Force

of these arguments, it must not be forgotten that there is another side to them. If the proprietors of protected articles cannot perceive that much substantial benefit has resulted from their action, they must not forget that they have escaped a good deal of injury. The campaign against profitless articles has developed wonderfully within the past ten years, as anybody who watches chemists' windows can have perceived. With thousands of chemists working in this direction daily, the annual result must be serious, and even the Napoleons of the business must have felt it. In such a contest it is worth a good deal to secure even the neutrality of chemists, if not their co-operation. That, at least, the conforming proprietors have had. Mr. Beecham declares that if he adopted the P.A.T.A. proposals, he would put himself in "an impossible position." He undertakes to explain how this would come about, but it can hardly be said that his explanation carries conviction. For my part, with the best will in the world to see his side of the question, I cannot get hold of any solid foothold at all. Mr. Beecham seems to contend that the impossible position would be created because half his sales, or more, are made through dealers other than chemists. But surely this proves nothing, unless it can be further established that these dealers, other than chemists, prefer a halfpenny to a penny. The utmost Mr. Beecham advances is that many of them say "they will not ask more than 10 per cent." Are there any of them who insist on having less?

A Minority Report

signed by Mr. Hills alone, as the outcome of the Poisons Committee, which is the latest shot of Madame Rumour, and probably a true one, tells us almost all we want to know of that investigation. When the Committee began its labours, I stated that Mr. Harrison, and not Mr. Alexander Cross, was the danger. Mr. Harrison was for the purposes of the Pharmacy Act the Privy Council; the Privy Council nearly twenty years ago devised a third part of the Poisons Schedule; and the Privy Council is very persistent. Persistent is the most amiable word available. Mr. Hills's minority report will not, it may be feared, carry more weight with Parliament than one by Mr. Alexander Cross would have done if it had chanced to fall to his lot to indite one. The conclusions of both gentlemen were assumed from the beginning. How such authorities as Drs. Stevenson, Thorpe, and Tilden have been secured by the other side is a problem which will make the full report worthy of study; but though Mr. Harrison may reasonably congratulate himself on the theory that his promised land is in view, it is only kindness to assure him that he will never reach it. The Pharmacy Act is too useful a statute to be pulled to pieces in this fashion.

The Chairman of the Vinolia Company

contributed an interesting essay last week to the advertisement-pages of this journal on "Friendship in Business." That gentleman, I should say, owes a large slice of his own success to his talent for making friends, and I believe his company follows in its founder's footsteps. So far, at least, as is compatible with sound bookkeeping, the company make it a pleasure to do business with them. But the Vinolia chairman will, I hope, forgive me for hinting that the friendship which he advocates as an associate with business does not interfere with the balance-sheet.

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Editorial Comments.

A Medical Bill.

WHICH DOES NOT TOUCH THE BRITISH PHARMACOPÆIA.

THE draft of a Bill to amend the Medical Acts which the General Medical Council discussed during its recent session, is essentially a centralising, economising, and money-making measure. The primary intention is pecuniary, as the Council is financially unsound. The Bill consists of eight clauses and a schedule. The first clause deals with the appointment, removal, and salaries of Registrars and officers of the General and Branch Councils, and of Treasurers. In the six paragraphs of the clause the Bill proposes to give the General Council the power of appointing all officers, taking this power from the Branch Councils, who, however, are permitted to nominate a person to be appointed registrar, and the General Council may appoint such person as well as remove any officer or servant. Although the time of the Council may be wasted on such matters without public grievance, we feel it distinctly pitiable that the time of the Legislature should be taken up with consideration of petty details like those embodied in the clause. A general enabling clause of twenty words ought to cover the requirement. The second clause of the Bill, extending to three paragraphs, gives power for the transfer of funds to, and payment of all expenses by, the General Council. This, again, is a business arrangement which thousands of commercial concerns of greater magnitude than the General Medical Council carry out daily without troubling Parliament. The fifth clause bears upon account-keeping, and the sixth gives power to the General

Council to pay direct representatives' election-expenses. The rest of the Bill practically creates new sources of revenue, (1) increasing the registration-fee of medical practitioners to a sum not exceeding 10*l.*, and (2) imposing a fee of 1*l.* for registration as a student, power being taken by the General Council to establish and publish a register of students. The clause does not say "medical students," but the Bill, if enacted, is to be construed as one with the Medical Acts, so that the new registration-fee should not apply to dental students. Such is the Bill, and although it has been temporarily shelved we shall hear more of it. It does not directly affect chemists and druggists; that, indeed, is why we call attention to an important omission from it—viz., reference to the revision and publication of the British Pharmacopoeia. We do not think that any attempt should be made by the General Medical Council to amend the Medical Acts without appealing to Parliament for some amelioration of the hapless condition in which it finds itself as regards this work. During the forty years the Council has been entrusted with it, the trend of medical education has steadily diminished the capabilities of medical practitioners as pharmaceutical experts, and simultaneously pharmacists have become more competent in that respect. Without repeating all the arguments for entrusting the revision of the Pharmacopoeia to a joint committee of pharmacologists and pharmacists, we submit that a Medical Bill gives an opportunity for putting this matter once for all on a proper basis, and the Councils of the Pharmaceutical Societies should arrange to have a suitable clause added to the measure. We should like to see a Pharmacopoeia Committee composed of pharmacologists and pharmacists equally representative of the three countries in the Union, and presided over, if need be, by a chairman appointed by the General Medical Council or Privy Council. The committee should be provided with annual grants from public funds for the purpose of carrying on continuous bibliographic and laboratory investigation towards the improvement of the Pharmacopoeia. Such work is eminently for the public good—as much so as is any of the matters for which Government funds are annually awarded to scientific investigators, and of the thousands thus spent a few hundreds devoted to pharmacopeial revision would yield a direct and excellent return. We hope something will be done by our pharmaceutical authorities in the directions indicated.

The Bromide-market.

THE climax in the bromide-market, which has been approaching for several weeks, has at last been reached. On Saturday last a genuine offer of American-made potassium bromide was made by an agent on this side, who quoted five-case lots at 1*s. 2d.* per lb., c.i.f. terms, and we understand that a few small orders have been cabled out at this figure. The offer was equivalent to throwing down the gauntlet, and, needless to say, the challenge is likely to be taken up by the European combination, who represent British and German interests. Up to Thursday evening, however, no announcement had been made as to what reduction was to take place in bromides, "the Stassfurt Syndicate not having concluded their deliberations." The reduction to be made will have to be substantial, and 1*s.* per lb. for potassium bromide is talked of. The present price is 1*s. 10½d.* for 10-cwt. lots, but even at 1*s.* it will leave a profit, as large stocks of bromine are held by the syndicate. At this figure the price would not be a record one, for some twelve years ago potassium bromide stood at 11*d.* Those who have followed our Trade Report have had ample warning of what might

be expected. In our issue of November 1 we stated that the American makers had quarrelled, and that the trust on that side had collapsed. Now it is the American middleman who is responsible for the present chaos, as he is quite beyond control, and the fact that potassium bromide was selling on the New York market last week at 25*c.* (1*s. 0½d.*), indicates to what extreme lengths a cut-throat policy has been adopted. We believe it to be the interests of consumers on this side to abstain for the moment from buying American bromide—that is, until the Syndicate's new price is declared. While the war is on it is unlikely that European makers will allow orders to pass them for the sake of a narrow margin. Naturally it is the retailer who will benefit by these low prices, and he will do well to take advantage of them by laying in a stock. It is practically impossible to forecast to what extent hostilities may be prolonged, though it is quite within the range of possibility that a fresh "understanding" may be arrived at with United States makers. As we have stated on a previous occasion, the output of bromine in the United States is increasing, which fact makes it more difficult than ever to control. Added to this, the supply of raw material is greatly in excess of what can be actually used. There have been so many sudden fluctuations in bromide salts of late years that wholesale druggists have considered them dangerous stocks to hold, and the present occasion is another instance that they are so.

AUSTRALASIAN RECIPROCITY.

Although the agreements are not actually signed, it is fairly certain that reciprocity in regard to the pharmaceutical certificates of the Australasian States will be an accomplished fact on February 1, 1903. The last time we referred to the matter, New South Wales defined the conditions upon which it was prepared to reciprocate, and since then delegates from the Victorian Pharmacy Board have accepted the limitations suggested. The difficulties with N.S.W. have been the section *d* men, and the acceptance of British certificates. After January 3, 1903, section *d* will no longer be in force, and it has been agreed to accept British certificates, the New South Wales Pharmacy Board being the only one not compelled by its Act to accept such proofs of qualification. South Australia, having left the details of the terms of reciprocity with the N.S.W. Board, is included in the scheme. The greater part of the area of the Australian continent being thus agreed, there is little doubt that the other Pharmacy Boards will fall into line. Regulations have yet to be drawn up and approved by the Governors in Council of the various States, except in the case of South Australia, where the change will need parliamentary assent. The essential features of the arrangements between the reciprocating States are, therefore (1) that any person whose name is on the register of any of the contracting parties on February 1 next may, should he remove to any other contracting State, obtain registration therein by virtue of his previous registration, and on proving his identity and paying the fees; (2) that a student, on obtaining his qualifying certificate in the State where he served his apprenticeship, can henceforth, if he domiciles in any other State, become registered therein by virtue of that certificate. Provision is also made for mutual recognition of extra-Australian diplomas on certain conditions, and thus, as the *Chemist and Druggist of Australasia* remarks, the way is smoothed for a Pan-Britannic pharmaceutical compact.

UNDISCHARGED BANKRUPTS.

The Board of Trade have issued, at the request of the Earl of Mayo, a return of undistributed money belonging to

bankrupts' estates in which the receiving order was made prior to December 31, 1898, and the trustee was not released on December 31, 1901. The paper shows the name of bankrupt, court and number, date of receiving order, balance of moneys undistributed at December 31, 1898, amount of subsequent receipts and payments up to December 31, 1901, and balance undistributed at the latter date. A systematic perusal of the return shows that nine bankrupts were still undischarged at December 31, 1901, whose failures have been reported in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST at various times between the years 1892 and 1898. The amount of balances in these cases which were undistributed at December 31, 1901, aggregates 1,294*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.* It is remarkable that not one of the nine is a registered chemist. Two were Mincing Lane merchants, two were druggists' travellers, two were patent-medicine proprietors, one was connected with a drug-company, another was a dentist, while the ninth traded as a druggist, but his name does not appear on the register.

THE STAMPED-MEDICINE TRADE.

In our issue of September 6 we summarised the report of the Inland Revenue for the year which ended on March 31 1902, and showed that the sale of medicine-stamps yielded a total of 306,337*l.* Figures are now available as to the kinds of stamps that were sold, and in the subjoined we compare these for 1900-1 and 1901-2:

		1900-1	1901-2
	{ No.	29,803,087	29,950,290
	{ Value	186,269 <i>l.</i>	187,189 <i>l.</i>
1 <i>½</i> d. stamps	...	6,223,883	6,532,122
3 <i>d.</i>	...	77,798 <i>l.</i>	81,651 <i>l.</i>
6 <i>d.</i>	...	1,053,221	1,136,985
	{ Value	26,330 <i>l.</i>	28,424 <i>l.</i>
1 <i>s.</i>	...	106,767	114,413
	{ Value	5,338 <i>l.</i>	5,720 <i>l.</i>
2 <i>s.</i>	...	7,392	16,479
	{ Value	739 <i>l.</i>	1,647 <i>l.</i>
3 <i>s.</i>	...	7,197	3,710
	{ Value	1,079 <i>l.</i>	556 <i>l.</i>

We have omitted shillings and pence from the actual totals, The only kind of stamps which decreased in number was the 3*s.* The increases are rather notable. It has been stated that the 2*s.* 9*d.* article has a tendency to grow out of proportion to others. That is actually the case, for 308,239 more 3*d.* stamps were sold in 1901-2 than in the year before, compared with 147,203 more 1*½*d. ones, and the 6*d.* stamps for 4*s.* 6*d.* articles increased by 83,764. The augmentation in 2*s.* stamps seems phenomenal, and as the articles to which such stamps are affixed fall between 10*s.* and 20*s.* in value, some people appear not to mind what they pay for medicines that suit them. We do not suppose anybody would pay such prices for physic unless they thought it did them good.

EDUCATIONAL MATTERS.

The Education Committee of the General Medical Council has reported that the Preliminary examination of the College of Preceptors has now reached the Council's standard, and recommended that it be restored to the list, but the examinations of the Educational Institute of Scotland and of the Royal Colleges in Ireland are not yet in that position. It is believed, however, that such improvements will be made in the two latter examinations that all three will be restored to the list when it is revised next year. A correspondent of the *Times* calls attention to the miserably poor examination now set for scholarships in the Royal College of Science, Dublin. This College has been transferred to the Agricultural and Technical Department, which is directed by clerical influences; and the paper set at the Scholarship examination this year is as follows:—

1. Write an essay on any one of the following subjects: (a) The value of advertisement of his goods to a pharmaceutical chemist; (b) motor-cars; (c) the child is father to the man.

2. What do you consider the best English prose-work written by

an Irish author? Give a general outline of the work, and point out its most striking features.

3. Give five lines from some well-known English poem by a poet born in Ireland. Briefly describe and criticise the poem from which the quotation is made.

This is a remarkable paper, says the correspondent, to set at such an examination; and he adds that not long ago some forty students at this college were turned out by the professors because they did not possess a sufficient education to profit by instruction.

SHALL WE BE HANGED?

One of the items on the agenda of a Council-meeting of the Society of Public Analysts, held at Burlington House, W., on Wednesday, December 3, was "Publication of Mr. Allen's Paper in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST." This refers to the communication on ipecacuanha alkaloids' reactions, which we printed on November 15. We have not heard what the Council of the Society is to do to us, or why it considers it an offence for Messrs. Allen and Scott-Smith's work to be placed before those who are most interested in ipecacuanha.

MEDICINAL SPECIALITIES IN GERMANY.

One of the out-of-the-way subjects dealt with by the General Medical Council committees during the past session was "the sale of patent and quack medicines in Germany." Mr. John Harrison (of the Privy Council) brought the matter before it. The Foreign Secretary wrote on June 26 to our Ambassador at Berlin on the subject, and he, in reply, sent two documents furnished by the Imperial Foreign Office. One of these shows that in Germany "patent and quack medicines" may not be sold by hawkers or others, but only in chemists' shops, and certain of them may be dispensed only on a physician's prescription, dated and signed. Advertising of venereal remedies is prohibited. Medicinal specialities are not stamped. A general uniform rule for the Federal States to be observed in the trade in "patent and quack medicines" is now being prepared. Mr. Harrison's communication has been referred to the Pharmacopoeia Committee.

THE NOBEL PRIZES.

The late Alfred Bernhard Nobel, who made many millions through the manufacture of explosives, knew that scientific investigators are not money-making men, and when he desired, by his will of November 27, 1895, to recognise their labours, he made the award substantial—viz., 150,000 Swedish kroner, or 8,281*l.* 10*s.* The 1902 awards have just been announced. They are given for chemistry to Professor Emil Fischer, of Berlin; for physics to Professor Dr. S. Arrhenius, of Stockholm; for medicine to Professor Finsen, of Copenhagen, whose treatment of lupus by red light-rays has been so warmly taken up by Queen Alexandria; and a fourth of the 150,000-kroner prizes goes to Major Ronald Ross, F.R.S., Director of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, in recognition of his investigations into the causes of malarial fever. Prizes are also given for literature and peace.

THE KAISER ON METHYLATED SPIRIT.

The following is a translation of an article which has appeared in the *Kölnerische Zeitung*:—

The Emperor has made good use of his stay at Sandringham by rendering a signal service to the German spirit-industry. It is well known that the Emperor takes a great interest in the use of spirit for technical purposes; every year on occasion of the exhibitions of the Agricultural Society he gives a valuable prize for the most important innovation in this respect. We are informed that the Emperor personally showed the King and the Court the different spirit appliances as used for lighting, cooking, &c., in Germany. The apparatus had been ordered by wire from Berlin, and had been sent forward to England in an incredibly short time by the Centrale of Berlin, with the assistance of the English Embassy in Berlin and the German Embassy in London. An expert German manufacturer saw to the putting-up of the apparatus at Sandringham. The Emperor, however, soon took the arrangements in his own hands, gave his own ideas as to

exhibiting the apparatus in the most advantageous manner, and translated the explanations of the German manufacturer to the company present. Lamps, cooking, and curling apparatus, stoves, &c., were shown in every detail; to the great delight of the King, the Emperor showed how a spirit flat-iron should be used. The Emperor further told the company that for the last six years in his palaces of Sans Souci and the new palace incandescent spirit-lamps had been in use, and had given good results. To each member of the company he showed what he thought would most interest them—apparatus for the household to the ladies, a stable-lantern to the landed proprietors, whom he strongly advised to do away with the unsatisfactory way of lighting stables by means of petroleum. The King, who showed the greatest interest, made many inquiries as to the German methods for methylating, &c., and asked one of the Royal engineers to make careful studies of all the appliances in order to see how they might be made use of for the English market. When the King heard that the spirit was increasingly used in Germany for motor-cars, and that the German army were making extensive trials with such cars, he advised the engineers to interest themselves in this branch of the use of spirit. The demonstration lasted about two hours, and the departure of the Emperor was delayed by half an hour on account of his anxiety to make the demonstration thoroughly understood. At the finish he gave the German exhibitor a great surprise by remarking to the company, "Well, gentlemen, the man has come over at great expense and inconvenience; let us therefore make it profitable for him." He then and there gave an order for several of the exhibited goods, a proceeding in which the rest of the company followed suit.

This strikes us in another way: Our King might be told that to his subjects the use of spirit-apparatus is much limited by the fact that the spirit costs us twice as much as it does in Germany. A little personal attention by him to the whole spirit question might do incalculable good to the country's commerce.

Birth.

RICARDOU.—At the Pharmacie Anglaise, 40 Rue d'Antibes, Cannes, to M. and Mme. J. M. Ricardou, a daughter (Camille).

Marriages.

ROBIN—WRIGHT.—At Darling's Regent Hotel, Edinburgh, on November 28, by Rev. J. S. Rae, assisted by Rev. A. Hardie, Rev. P. C. Durward, M.A. (brother-in-law of the bride), and Rev. J. Jack, M.A., Hugh Millar Robin, chemist and druggist, Newtongrange and Gorebridge, to Marion Bulloch, second daughter of Mr. John Wright, Findhorn Place, Edinburgh.

ROBINSON—TRUSCOTT.—On November 29, at St. John's Church, Egremont, Cheshire, by the Rev. G. R. Sanders, vicar, John Henry Robinson, chemist and druggist, of Exchange Station Pharmacy, Liverpool, to Mary Lizzie Truscott, of Ferris Villa, Truro.

Deaths.

AITKEN.—At Ventnor, Isle of Wight, on November 24, after nearly four years' intense suffering, Mr. Richard Cobden Aitken. Aged 58. Mr. Aitken was senior partner in the firm of Messrs. M. A. Aitken & Son, drug-grinders, Beddington Corner, Mitcham, and was connected with the wholesale drug-trade for thirty-five years. He took great interest in parish affairs, and was a member of the Wallington Parish Council since its formation. He was also a member of the Board of Conservators for Mitcham Common. The remains were buried in the family grave at Beddington Church on November 29.

ASHTON.—At Droylsden, Manchester, on November 19, Mr. John Ashton, chemist and druggist. Aged 65.

BLACKETT.—At Melbourne (Vic.), on October 18, from paralysis, Mr. Cuthbert R. Blackett, F.C.S., the Victorian Government Analyst. Aged 71. Mr. Blackett was a native of Southminster, Essex, where his father was a clergyman. He went out to Australia when 22, but returned to Europe in 1868 and studied at Heidelberg, then went back to Australia in 1871, and started business as a pharmacist in Fitzroy. As the Fitzroy representative in the Victorian Legislative Assembly from 1879 to 1883 he did much for pharmaceutical

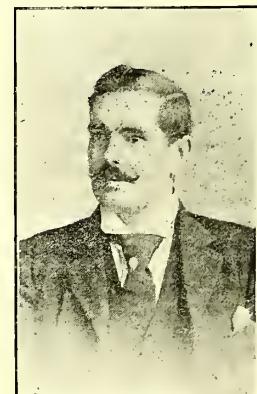
legislation; indeed, he has for a quarter of a century been recognised as the leader of Victorian pharmacy, and since 1883, when the late Joseph Bosisto resigned the presidency of the Pharmacy Board, Mr. Blackett filled the position, none dreaming that there was anyone else to fill it. He was also a founder of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia, and had served it in various offices. Mr. Blackett was appointed Government Analyst in 1887, and as chemist to the Customs he did much to influence the commerce of the colony, while his work as an expert witness in several sale-of-poisons cases has helped to definitely settle moot points in pharmacy-law administration. The occurrence of his death so soon after the Pharmacy Board had decided upon a scheme of reciprocity that is likely to be final, is exceptionally tragic. It was he who, on October 8, moved the resolutions that brought this about, and had he lived he would have engineered the inter-State Conference on the subject. In other ways Mr. Blackett will be missed, for, as we said on January 8, 1887, when publishing his portrait, he was "a man of high culture and scholarly attainments, and a fluent speaker and lecturer." In some respects Mr. Blackett bore a facial resemblance to Sir William Crookes.

HALL.—At Hull, on November 20, Mr. Robert Henry Fulstow Hall, pharmaceutical chemist. Aged 79.

HENSBY.—At Langley, on November 17, Mr. Robert Place Hensby, chemist and druggist.

INGHAM CLARK.—On December 2, at 59 Portland Place, suddenly, of heart-failure, Eleanor, the beloved wife of Mr. R. Ingham Clark, of Glen Caladh, Kyles of Butc, N.B. In her 59th year.

THOMAS.—The death of Mr. John Thomas, pharmaceutical chemist, Notting Hill Gate, W., under the painful circumstances mentioned elsewhere, recalls a brilliant scholastic career and a varied business one. Mr. Thomas served his apprenticeship with the late Mr. Lovatt, of Coventry, and after his death managed the business. Then he went to Messrs. Bowers, of Chester, and later came to London as assistant to Mr. Wm. Jones, pharmaceutical chemist, Shrewsbury Road, W. It was about this time that Mr. Thomas entered the School of Pharmacy. He passed the Minor on February 27, 1887, and the Major on July 14 of the same year. He took certificates in each of the school classes, being second to Mr. Edmund White, and he carried off the 1887 Pereira medal, for which, however, Mr. White did not compete that year. Mr. Thomas's subsequent situations were with Messrs. Jas. Woolley, Sons & Co., Manchester; Béral, Paris; and at Naples and San Moritz. In 1894 Mr. Thomas started business at 99 High Street, Notting Hill Gate, which he advertised as "the cheapest drug-store in London." Mr. Thomas was 37 years old.



Personalities.

MR. J. F. CHILD. has left the London Essence Company, which he has been managing for some years.

MR. CHARLES W. WHITE. returned to Bombay in the *China* on November 28, to resume his duties on the field in India.

SIR MICHAEL FOSTER. Secretary R.S., is resigning his seat in Parliament as member for the University of London because he does not agree with the Education Bill.

One of the very first civic duties that has fallen to Mr. Alderman T. C. Lamb (of the firm of Tribe & Lamb, wholesale chemists and druggists, High Street, Chatham), as Mayor of the Borough of Chatham, was to welcome on November 28 the King of Portugal to the dockyard town.

Solubility.

By P. W. SQUIRE and C. M. CAINES.

SO far back as 1864 the late Peter Squire saw the importance, in a book of reference for use by chemists and medical men, of giving figures for the solubility of the various salts, particularly in water, and consequently this has been a feature of Squire's "Companion" from its first edition, the solubility in most instances being given to the nearest whole number. This portion of the book has been revised and enlarged from time to time in the various succeeding editions, and it necessitated a considerable amount of experimental work. It was, therefore, with great interest one noticed that this subject was occupying the attention of Messrs. Greenish and Smith. On comparing figures given in their reports with those of the "Companion," it will be noticed that they agree very closely. Out of about fifty substances we find that with over forty the figures are so close as to be within the limit of personal equation; with the remainder the "Companion" gives the next whole number either above or below their decimals.

There are two substances, however, in which the difference

No. 3, a sample labelled "Ammonium phosphate pure."—Two grams yielded 1·774 gram magnesium pyrophosphate, equivalent to 105·25 per cent. ammonium phosphate, $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{HPO}_4$, or 78·07 per cent. H_3PO_4 .

No. 4, a sample labelled "Phosphate of ammonia."—Two grams yielded 1·818 gram magnesium pyrophosphate, equivalent to 107·86 per cent. $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{HPO}_4$, or 80·01 per cent. H_3PO_4 .

No. 5, a sample labelled "Phosphate of ammonia."—Two grams yielded 1·782 gram magnesium pyrophosphate, equivalent to 105·28 per cent. ammonium phosphate, $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{HPO}_4$, or 78·4 per cent. H_3PO_4 .

No. 6, a sample, alkaline in reaction to litmus-paper, and one which had been in stock some considerable time.—Two grams yielded 1·688 gram magnesium pyrophosphate, equivalent to 100·04 per cent. ammonium phosphate, $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{HPO}_4$, or 74·22 per cent. H_3PO_4 .

No. 7, a sample acid in reaction to litmus, labelled "Ammonium phosphate pure B.P."—Two grams yielded 1·711 gram magnesium pyrophosphate, equivalent to 101·5 per cent. ammonium phosphate, $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{HPO}_4$, or 75·3 per cent. phosphoric acid.

No. 8, a sample labelled "Ammonium phosphate."—It was acid in reaction to litmus. Two grams yielded 103·47 per cent. ammonium phosphate, $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{HPO}_4$, or 76·75 per cent. phosphoric acid.

To give at a glance the results of the experiments on the solubility of the samples, they are tabulated below. The quantity of the salt taken was usually 10 grams, the water being measured in cubic centimetres, but some of the experiments were also repeated with larger quantities:—

—	1 in 0.76	1 in 1	1 in 1½	1 in 2	1 in 3
No. 1	A large quantity undissolved	Still some undissolved	Not completely dissolved	Completely dissolved	Completely dissolved
No. 2	A large quantity undissolved	Still some undissolved	Not completely dissolved	Not completely dissolved	Completely dissolved
No. 3	A large quantity undissolved	Still some undissolved	Completely dissolved	Completely dissolved	Completely dissolved
No. 4	A large quantity undissolved	Still some undissolved	Completely dissolved	Completely dissolved	Completely dissolved
No. 5	A large quantity undissolved	Still some undissolved	Completely dissolved	Completely dissolved	Completely dissolved
No. 6	A large quantity undissolved	Still some undissolved	Not completely dissolved	Completely dissolved	Completely dissolved
No. 7	A large quantity undissolved	Still some undissolved	Completely dissolved	Completely dissolved	Completely dissolved
No. 8	A smaller quantity undis- solved	Completely dissolved	Completely dissolved	Completely dissolved	Completely dissolved

is so marked as to call for special mention. These are ammonium phosphate and zinc sulphocarbonate. Experiments with these two substances were, therefore, instituted for the purpose of arriving at the true figures.

AMMONIUM PHOSPHATE.

Eight commercial samples were examined as to their solubility in water at 15·5° C. (60° F.), and were also tested by the Pharmacopoeia requirements. Nos. 1 and 2 were prepared by ourselves, and Nos. 3 to 8 were purchased from chemical-manufacturers, the orders being given for ammonium phosphate B.P. :—

No. 1, a sample prepared in our laboratory by neutralising orthophosphoric acid with liquor ammonia fort. diluted with an equal volume of water, adding some solid ammonium carbonate to ensure an excess of ammonia throughout the evaporation, evaporating to low bulk, and allowing to crystallise.—The crystals were dried on folds of bibulous paper. Two grams of this salt was dissolved in 50 c.c. water, and solution of magnesium ammonium sulphate added in excess; the crystalline precipitate when well washed with solution of ammonia diluted with an equal volume of water, dried, and heated to redness, weighed 1·680 gram, equivalent to 99·68 per cent. ammonium phosphate, $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{HPO}_4$, and containing 73·94 per cent. H_3PO_4 .

No. 2, a sample also prepared in our laboratory, but differing from the above in that the proportions of ortho-phosphoric acid and liquor ammonia fort. were those necessary to form an acid salt of the composition $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4$.—In the preparation of this salt advantage was taken of the note in the seventeenth edition of the "Companion," page 41, that "the percentage acidity of phosphoric acid is conveniently determined by titration with standard alkali, using phenolphthalein as an indicator; the change of colour takes place when two-thirds of the hydrogen is replaced by alkali-metal. With methyl-orange as an indicator neutrality is reached with half this quantity of alkali." As our object was to get the acid salt, methyl-orange was employed as the indicator. Two grams of the salt yielded 1·892 gram magnesium pyrophosphate, equivalent to 97·75 per cent. $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4$, 112·26 per cent. $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{HPO}_4$, or 83·27 per cent. phosphoric acid.

In no instance did a sample completely dissolve according to the figure given by Greenish and Smith—viz., 1 in 0·76. In each case a residue was left undissolved which varied considerably in quantity in the different commercial samples; in the case of sample No. 1, it constituted quite half the salt originally added, and as this sample corresponded in all respects with the B.P. description, it may be regarded as the official salt.

Squire's "Companion" gave 1 in 2 from the first edition (1864) to the fifteenth (1890), and 1 in 3 in the later editions. We have not been able to trace the cause of the alteration. Greenish and Smith state that their figure was not obtained by using the normal Pharmacopoeia salt, but by calculation from results obtained with a salt containing an excess of phosphoric acid. We found that the solubility of the normal B.P. salt is 1 in 2, and of the normal acid salt 1 in 3, but a mixture of the two dissolved in much less water, varying with the composition of the mixture: one containing 75 per cent. of the alkaline salt and 25 per cent. of the acid salt had a solubility of nearly 1 in 1.

In connection with this mixture we selected the commercial sample which most closely corresponded with this composition, and the following two experiments were made:—

One hundred grams was treated with 76 c.c. of water at 15·5° C. (60° F.) for six hours with constant agitation. A good portion of the salt had remained undissolved; the sp. gr. of the solution was 1·335. After forty-eight hours the sp. gr. remained the same. Twenty grams more of the salt was then added, and after a further twelve hours the sp. gr. had increased to 1·349. The sp. gr., after agitation over an excess of salt, coupled with an increasing gravity on further addition of the sample of salt, clearly shows that such sample was a mixture and could be made to give any figure

by simply varying the relative proportions of salt and water. This peculiarity was not confined to one case only in the commercial samples. In order to apply the same test to the sample prepared by ourselves (corresponding with the B.P. requirements), an excess of salt was treated with water for six hours, and had arrived at a constant gravity, which could not be increased after two days' digestion, and after a further addition of the salt the gravity did not increase, which goes to show that the salt was of a definite composition.

ZINC SULPHOCARBOLATE.

The figure given for this salt by Greenish and Smith is 1 in 27. As our stock sample gave a solution 1 in 2 (which is the "Companion" figure), three other commercial samples from manufacturing chemists were obtained. Each sample was ordered as zinc sulphocarbonate B.P. Each of these three samples gave a solution 1 in 2 of water. A recrystallised salt was prepared in our laboratory, and this also dissolved 1 in 2. To explain the discrepancy between the "Companion" figure and that of Greenish and Smith an inquiry into the composition of the salt seemed necessary. The amount of anhydrous zinc sulphocarbonate present in each sample was determined by precipitating the zinc as carbonate and weighing as zinc oxide, the residual zinc oxide being calculated into anhydrous zinc sulphocarbonate; 80·8 parts ZnO correspond to 408·5 parts zinc sulphocarbonate anhydrous:—

No. 1, a sample labelled "Zinci sulphocarbonate B.P."—Five grams yielded 0·735 gram zinc oxide, equivalent to 74·11 per cent. anhydrous zinc sulphocarbonate and 25·89 per cent. water.

No. 2, a sample labelled "Zinc sulphocarbonate."—Five grams yielded 0·735 gram ZnO, equivalent to 74·30 per cent. anhydrous zinc sulphocarbonate and 25·70 per cent. water.

No. 3, a sample labelled "Zinci sulphocarb. B.P."—Five grams yielded 0·732 gram zinc oxide, equivalent to 74·01 per cent. anhydrous zinc sulphocarbonate and 25·99 per cent. water.

No. 4, a sample labelled "Sulphocarbonate of zinc B.P."—Five grams yielded 0·731 gram zinc oxide, equivalent to 73·90 per cent. anhydrous zinc sulphocarbonate and 26·10 per cent. water.

No. 5, a recrystallised zinc sulphocarbonate prepared in our laboratory.—Five grammes yielded 0·735 gram zinc oxide, equivalent to 74·30 per cent. anhydrous zinc sulphocarbonate and 25·70 per cent. water.

All the above samples dissolved in 1 in 2 of water.

No. 6 was obtained by carefully drying sample No. 2 at 105°–110° C. Five grams yielded 0·840 gram zinc oxide, equivalent to 95·04 per cent. anhydrous zinc sulphocarbonate and 4·96 per cent. water. This, on being treated in the usual manner with water, was found to dissolve 1 in 2·7. The experiment was commenced by adding 2 parts of water to 1 of the salt, and gradually adding more water until it completely dissolved at 1 in 2·7, the sp. gr. of the solution being then 1·160.

The foregoing results are tabulated for more ready comparison:—

Salt	Per cent. of Zinc Sulphocarbonate Anhydrous	Per cent. of Water
Zn(OH.C ₆ H ₄ SO ₃) ₂ .H ₂ O	95·81	4·19
Zn(OH.C ₆ H ₄ SO ₃) ₂ .8H ₂ O	74·07	25·93
Sample No. 1	74·11	25·89
Sample No. 2	74·30	25·7
Sample No. 3	74·01	25·99
Sample No. 4	73·90	26·10
Sample No. 5	74·30	25·70
Sample No. 6	95·04	4·96
Greenish and Smith's sample	73·66	26·34

Messrs. Greenish and Smith give the figure for the solubility of zinc sulphocarbonate in water as 1 in 2·7, and they obtained this result by making a saturated solution of the salt and precipitating the solution with sodium carbonate,

calculating the result into Zn(OH.C₆H₄SO₃)₂.H₂O, but their previous experiment had shown that the salt they operated upon contained 26·34 per cent. of water. They did not note the fact that the Pharmacopoeia formula did not agree with the salt that they were using. It is clear from the B.P. description of the salt that the formula should read 8H₂O instead of H₂O, as crystalline zinc sulphocarbonate should contain this quantity of water. The salt loses 7H₂O pretty readily at 105°–110° C., but the last molecule of water requires a higher temperature, and is driven off with difficulty.

For the convenience of readers a comparison table of solubility figures is appended.

	"Companion"	Greenish and Smith
Ammonium bromide	... 1 in 1·5	1 in 1·40
Ammonium chloride	... 1 in 3	1 in 2·80
Potassium bromide	... 1 in 1·7	1 in 1·59
Potassium iodide	... 1 in 0·75	1 in 0·71
Sodium bromide	... 1 in 1·2	1 in 1·126
Sodium iodide	... 1 in 0·54	1 in 0·58
Sodium chloride	... 1 in 2·75	1 in 2·8
Ammonium carbonate	... 1 in 4	1 in 3·94
Potassium bicarbonate	... 1 in 3·2	1 in 3·21
Sodium bicarbonate	... 1 in 12	1 in 11·08
Potassium carbonate	... 1 in 0·75	1 in 0·75*
Sodium carbonate	... 1 in 1·6	1 in 1·66
Lithium carbonate	... 1 in about 70	1 in 72·8
Ammonium phosphate	... 1 in 3	1 in 0·76
Sodium phosphate	... 1 in 6	1 in 6·91
Potassium nitrate	... 1 in 4	1 in 3·77
Potassium permanganate	... 1 in 18	1 in 18·7
Sodium arsenate	... 1 in 4	1 in 4·88
Sodium hypophosphate	... 1 in 1	1 in 0·78*
Sodium nitrite	... 1 in 1·2	1 in 1·36
Sodium salicylate	... 1 in 1	1 in 0·88*
Sodium sulphite	... 1 in 1·33	1 in 1·86
Sodium sulphocarbonate	... 1 in 6	1 in 5·48
Lead acetate	... 1 in 2	1 in 2·37
Potassium acetate	... 1 in 0·5	1 in 0·379*
Potassium chlorate	... 1 in 16	1 in 16·53
Potassium bichromate	... 1 in 10	1 in 9·93
Ammonium benzoate	... 1 in 6	1 in 5·1
Sodium benzoate	... 1 in 2	1 in 1·68*
Borax...	... 1 in 25	1 in 23·69
Potassium sulphate	... 1 in 10	1 in 9·65
Sodium sulphate { 58·5° F. } 1 in 3	1 in { 2·88 2·68 2·44 }	1 in { 2·88 2·68 2·44 }
Calcium hydrate	... 1 in about 900	1 in 780
Potash caustic	... 1 in 0·5	1 in 0·772*
Potassium citrate	... 1 in 0·6	1 in 0·61*
Potassium tartrate	... 1 in 0·6	1 in 0·658*
Potassium acid tartrate	... 1 in 200	1 in 218·6
Sodium potassium tartrate	1 in 1·5	1 in 1·392*
Acid arsenious crystallised	1 in 100	1 in 71
Acid, boric	... 1 in 25	1 in 25
Acid, chromic	... 1 in 0·5	1 in 0·59
Acid, citric	... 1 in 0·6	1 in 0·51
Acid, tartaric	... 1 in 0·8	1 in 0·71
Alum (ammonia)	... 1 in 11	1 in 9·95
Alum (potash)	... 1 in 11	1 in 9·70
Calcium chloride CaCl ₂ 2H ₂ O	1 in 1	1 in 0·82
Copper sulphate	... 1 in 3·5	1 in 2·79
Lithium citrate	... 1 in 2	1 in 1·635
Magnesium sulphate	... 1 in 1·3	1 in 0·98
Zinc acetate	... 1 in 2·5	1 in 2·11
Zinc chloride	... 1 in 0·4	1 in 0·344
Zinc sulphate	... 1 in 0·7	1 in 0·65
Zinc sulphocarbonate	... 1 in 2	1 in 2·7

* These figures were subsequently corrected by Messrs. Greenish and Smith (*P. J.* 1902, i. 552), and their list of corrections is given below:—

Potassii carbonas	... ...	1 in 0·61
Sodii hypophosphis	... ...	1 in 0·63
Sodii salicylas	... ...	1 in 0·83
Potassii acetas	... ...	1 in 0·279
Sodii benzoas	... ...	1 in 1·64
Potassa caustica	... ...	1 in 0·647
Potassii citras	... ...	1 in 0·55
Potassii tartras	... ...	1 in 0·625
Soda tartarata	... ...	1 in 1·138

Legal Reports.

High Court Cases.

A KODAK CASE.

THE action of Kodak (Limited) against the London Stereoscopic Company was mentioned before Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady in the Chancery Division on November 28. Mr. Sebastian (for the defendants) said he had arranged with Mr. Kirby, who appeared for the other side, to deliver particulars of the grounds of objection to the respondents' trade-marks, on which they intended to rely, and that they should be limited to the grounds so given. His friend, however, wanted to limit him to eight days in which to give copies of exhibits, and that was rather a short time. His Lordship: What are the exhibits? Mr. Kirby said they were copies of trade catalogues. His friend had exhibited a great mass of trade catalogues, and it was arranged that certain pages should be photographed, and he knew that the photographs had been made, but the defendants had not delivered the copies. Mr. Sebastian offered to deliver particulars within fourteen days; but his Lordship said ten days was long enough, and an order was made accordingly.

CHLORINATED-LIME DAMAGES.

As briefly reported last week (page 920) the Court of Appeal, composed of the Master of the Rolls and Lords Justices Romer and Mathew, on November 27 gave judgment on the appeal and cross-appeal in the case of Clarke and wife v. the Army and Navy Co-operative Society (Limited), which was decided before Mr. Justice Wills and a special jury on June 30 (see *C. & D.*, July 5, 1902, page 13). Mrs. Clarke, Rottingdean, and Commander H. J. L. Clarke, R.N., her husband, were then awarded 172*l.* 10*s.* damages for personal injuries caused to Mrs. Clarke by reason of defendants' negligence in selling to her at Plymouth a tin containing defective chlorinated lime, which exploded, and for breach of an implied warranty that the tin was reasonably fit and safe to be used.

Mr. Reginald Bray, K.C., and Mr. Colefax appeared for the defendants; and Mr. Eldon Banks, K.C., and Mr. Neville for the plaintiffs.

After hearing arguments on both sides,

The Master of the Rolls, in giving judgment, said the jury had found for the plaintiffs, and had added a rider that in their opinion there was no explosion. One of the questions to be decided was, What was the meaning of that rider? Lord Justice Mathew had, during the argument, pointed out that although there was an explosion in a strictly scientific sense—not something which caused a momentary huge increase in atmospheric pressure—at the *locus in quo* there was yet a "puffing-off," or, as he aptly defined the catastrophe, an eruption of the powder sufficiently strong to reach the eyes of a lady stooping over a tin, although not of sufficient force to carry it up to the eyes of a man holding it at a respectful distance. In his Lordship's opinion the defendants had notice that this parcel of tins was potentially dangerous, and the plaintiffs had proved that the defendants had been guilty of a breach of duty towards them as purchasers of an article which they had sold, and which they knew was potentially dangerous.

Lords Justices Romer and Mathew concurred.

The appeal of the defendants and the cross-appeal of the plaintiffs were therefore dismissed, with costs.

A DRUG-DEALER'S FAILURE.

AN application was made on December 2 to Mr. Justice Wright, sitting as Bankruptcy Judge in the King's Bench Division, for an order to be made upon Mark Blenkhorn, 47 Henrietta Street, Old Trafford, Manchester, the trustee under a deed of arrangement entered into in September, 1898, between James Edwin Winn, dealer in drugs, 39 Higher Ardwick and 12 Albert Place, Longsight, Manchester, to comply with an order of the Board of Trade, made in July last, to furnish an account of his receipts and payments as trustee under the deed. Mr. Muir Mackenzie, in making the application, said notice of motion had been served upon the respondent, but other communications had been returned through the post marked "Gone away." The respondent was

neither present nor represented, and his Lordship made an order in the terms of the application.

EVANS v. JONES.

IN the Chancery of the County Palatine of Lancaster at Liverpool on December 3, before Vice-Chancellor Hall, this case was again mentioned in reference to the settlement of a scheme for the establishment of a hospital for diseases of the throat out of funds paid into court by the plaintiffs, and which funds had been derived from the sale of an antiseptic throat-pastille. Counsel stated that the Attorney-General, Messrs. Evans Sons & Co. (which firm has now been changed into a limited company), and the medical men were all practically agreed as to the basis for the hospital. Subject to the payment of royalty and other necessary conditions, Messrs. Evans, Sons & Co. were to be the sole firm to manufacture the pastilles. The scheme provided for the payment of all the plaintiffs' costs out of the sum already paid into court. The Vice-Chancellor concurred.

WILLOW FOR SALICIN-MANUFACTURE.

THE case of L. Schiltz & Co. v. J. F. Macfarlan & Co., first mentioned in the *C. & D.*, November 15, page 813, again came before Lord Kyllachy in the Court of Session, Edinburgh, on December 3. It is in respect to 75 tons of red-sorcer willow-peelings, which defendants allege to be contrary to contract. Mr. J. C. Watt, for pursuers, now applied to be allowed to test the bark which is in Messrs. Macfarlan's warehouses in presence of a neutral party, not being defenders. Mr. Blackburn, for the latter, submitted that defenders' manager should be present. Lord Kyllachy said he could not prevent Mr. Blackburn's client, as proprietor and custodian, from having someone in his own premises on his behalf to see there was no undue interference with the goods, and, if necessary, appealing to the neutral person as to what should be done. Mr. Watt said, if that was the case, he thought Mr. Blackburn and he would be able to agree upon a neutral person.

Dentists Act.

"SPECIALY QUALIFIED."

AT Sale on December 1, John H. H. Loft, of Ashton-on-Mersey, was summoned at the instance of the British Dental Association for unlawfully using the words "specialist on the teeth," &c., without being registered under the Dentists Act or being specially qualified to practise dentistry. Mr. R. W. Turner, who prosecuted, based his case on pamphlets and circulars published by the defendant, stating that he was a specialist on the teeth, and implying that he was specially qualified to practise dentistry. He submitted that the words could bear no other interpretation than that he was a dentist. The defendant further announced "painless dentistry," "painless extractions," and also published certain testimonials, in which he stated that he was an "expert extractor" of teeth.

The managing-clerk to a London firm of solicitors, representing the Dental Association, gave evidence as to the interview above referred to. Cross-examined by Mr. Ray, barrister, who appeared for the defendant, the witness declined to express an opinion as to whether the Association had acted in an un-English manner in issuing a summons instead of first giving the defendant notice. He admitted that there was nothing on defendant's circular to indicate that he was a dentist. Replying to Mr. Turner, witness said that if notice were given beforehand unqualified men would take advantage, and alter their circulars so as to keep out of the clutches of the law. Mr. Ray condemned the action of the Association as being un-English and partaking of the nature of persecution rather than prosecution. He submitted also that it was absolutely imperative to have someone there from the Association, and not a solicitor's clerk to support it.

The defendant gave evidence, and in cross-examination said he knew of the Dentists Act, but did not know that he was violating it at all. He left it to the discretion of people themselves to infer whether he was an expert person or not. It was some time since he had administered any anaesthetic except locally.

Mr. Turner: How do you do "painless extractions" without anaesthetics?—With water.

Mr. Turner: Only with water?—Yes. It is an acknowledged fact, and stated in one of our journals, that it is effective by the aid of a syringe.

The defendant was fined 10*l.* and costs, with 3*l.* 3*s.* advocate's fee.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

TINCTURE OF IODINE.

AT Tonbridge on December 2, Messrs. Hailstone & Knight of Hadlow, were ordered to pay 5*l.* 10*s.*, including costs, for selling tincture of iodine deficient in strength.

SEIDLITZ-POWDERS.

HARRY FISCHER, a retail grocer, of Lordship Lane, East Dulwich, was fined 40*s.*, and costs, at the Lambeth Police Court on December 2 for selling seidlitz-powders not of the nature and quality demanded.

SALTPETRE.

AT Carrickmore Petty Sessions on November 26, the adjourned hearing of the charge against Michael McCartan, Eskerhuoy, for selling saltpetre containing chlorides, was proceeded with (*C. & D.*, November 8, page 776). A fine of 3*l.*, and 1*l.* costs, was imposed, and a notice of appeal on the grounds of excessive fine was served.

OLIVE OIL.

AT Huddersfield on December 2, Albert Haigh, manager of the Shipley Co-operative Stores, was fined 40*s.*, and costs, for selling olive oil adulterated with 25 per cent. of cotton-seed oil.

AT the Tonbridge Petty Sessions on December 2, William E. Trill, of Shiphourne, and Emily Leeds, of Hadlow, were each fined 5*l.* 10*s.*, including costs, for selling paraffin oil for olive oil.

SWEET SPIRIT OF NITRE.

AT Rotherham on December 1, Robert Hewitt, of Kiveton Park, was fined 10*s.*, and costs, for selling sweet spirit of nitre not up to B.P. standard.

AT Northampton on November 22, George James, secretary of the Industrial Co-operative Society, Moulton, was summoned for selling sweet spirit of nitre which was stated by the Public Analyst to be 30 per cent. deficient in ethyl nitrite. Objection was taken that the analyst's certificate was not in accordance with the Act, inasmuch as it did not state that no change had taken place which would alter the constitution of the article, and the case was adjourned to get a qualified opinion as to whether spirit of nitre was subject to decomposition. A similar case against Samuel T. Burton, grocer, Moulton, was also adjourned. The Bench intimated that if the objection were found to be a valid one defendants need not attend again.

THE WHOLESALERS' RESPONSIBILITY.

AT Pontefract Borough Court on December 1, the adjourned case was heard in which Thomas P. Ramsden, chemist, was charged with having sold adulterated sal volatile. The previous hearing was reported in the *C. & D.*, November 29, page 881. Mr. Lowden, who defended, now said they had arranged for the wholesale dealers to pay the plaintiff's costs, and he agreed to the withdrawal. Mr. Maud (for the Bench) objected at first, unless further particulars were forthcoming. Mr. Ramsden, he said, was the innocent victim, as he himself had been upon a former occasion, and it was not fair that the County Council should shelter, as they appeared to be doing, the wholesale people, whose name had not transpired. For anything they might know, all the retailers of the town might be dealing with these same wholesalers. The Bench, however, eventually allowed the summons to be withdrawn.

WHAT IS CORNFLOUR?

THE Notting Hill retailer who was recently fined 10*l.* for selling a rice-starch preparation as cornflour appealed, and the case came before Mr. Loveland-Loveland, K.C., at the Petty Sessional Court, finally on December 3. Mr. Muir (for the

appellant) said the parties had consented that the appeal should be dismissed, and that there should be judgment, without costs, for 1*l.*, the defendant undertaking to mark each packet of "kemylina" in future with the words "Prepared from rice." Mr. Loveland-Loveland said he had taken a great deal of trouble in looking up the question in certain books, and he had also consulted some American gentlemen in the trade who were not in business in England. It had been urged by Mr. Muir that the word "cornflour" meant the flour of any cereal. He had no hesitation in saying that what the learned counsel had urged was not correct. Had the case been further proceeded with, he would have had no hesitation in saying that cornflour is flour made only from Indian corn. Judgment was entered as arranged.

County Court Case.

A MONTH'S NOTICE THE CUSTOM OF THE TRADE.

AT the Southampton County Court on December 2, before Judge Percy Gye, William Wilkinson, chemist's assistant, sued Messrs. Bates & Co. (Limited), chemists, Southampton, for 5*l.* 5*s.*—one month's wages—less 35*s.* paid on account. Mr. C. Sampot (Southampton) represented plaintiff, and Mr. E. R. Ensor appeared for defendants.

In opening the case, Mr. Sampot said the point at issue was whether or not plaintiff was entitled to a month's or a week's notice. To occupy a position as chemist's assistant required a certain amount of skill and technical knowledge superior to that of an ordinary person. Plaintiff had come from Barnstaple to take up a position in defendants' employ. He had received a letter from the firm, in which they used the expression, "If at the end of a month it should happen you do not like the place we should be glad to bear part of the travelling-expenses." He suggested that that was practically an admission that the position was a monthly one. His client, however, had complicated the matter by asking to be paid weekly.

His Honour: That does not make any difference.

Plaintiff tore out the statement of his solicitor, and added that he entered the employment of defendants in September. At the end of six weeks, finding that he did not like the place, he gave a month's notice. Mr. Bates accepted the notice, but in the evening he requested plaintiff to give the requisite notice to the secretary. Later, however, Mr. Bates remarked, "If you are in a hurry you can go in a week," and on plaintiff declining and stating that he preferred to give a month's notice, defendant insisted on his going in a week, and told the secretary, "Mr. Wilkinson is a weekly servant; give him a week's notice and let him go." Replying to the Judge, plaintiff said he was not a qualified chemist. He had sat for his final examination, but had been "ploughed."

For the defence, Mr. Ensor contended that plaintiff was subject to a week's notice.

William Bates, managing director for the defendants, said plaintiff accepted the position of stock and counter assistant at a salary of 35*s.* per week. He was paid weekly. The work undertaken by him was not that of a qualified chemist. On entering the shop one morning plaintiff called out at the top of his voice, and before a number of customers, "I wish to leave at the end of the month!" Witness told him to see him in his office, and subsequently, in talking the matter over, witness telling him that his appointment was subject to a week's notice, plaintiff became abusive, whereupon witness told the secretary to pay him a week's salary and let him go at once.

Frank Young, secretary to the defendant company, gave corroborative evidence.

His Honour, in giving judgment, said it was by no means an easy case to decide, but he thought plaintiff's view of the case was the probable one. The plaintiff was manifestly a gentleman in a superior position, inasmuch as he did not take the position of counterman purely and simply, but was qualifying for a chemist. It was not reasonable that a gentleman should be subjected, like an ordinary farm-labourer earning 12*s.* per week, to a week's notice. He therefore held that there should have been a month's notice, and he gave judgment for the plaintiff for the amount claimed.

Mr. Sampot said his client had come from Newcastle-on-Tyne on purpose for the hearing, and asked for his expenses to be allowed. His Honour acquiesced, and allowed plaintiff 30*s.* expenses.

American Peppermint Oil.

By E. J. PARRY, B.Sc., F.I.C.

DURING the past few months—that is, since the great increase of price in peppermint oil commenced—adulteration of the oil has increased to an enormous extent. Attention is drawn to the following figures representing samples analysed in the ordinary course, and all representing deliveries against contracts for pure oil:—

Sp. Gr.	Opt. Rotation	Behaviour with 10 vols. 70-per-cent. Alcohol
0·880	- 9°	insoluble
0·884	- 10° 20'	"
0·895	- 11° 4'	"
0·886	- 11°	"
0·896	- 12°	"
0·902	- 13° 6'	"
0·904	- 14°	"
0·887	- 11° 20'	"
0·889	- 10° 31'	"
0·884	- 9° 18'	"

The B.P. sp. gr. is 0·900 to 0·920, and solubility 1 in 4 of 70-per-cent. alcohol. Not one of these samples dissolved in 3 volumes of 90-per-cent. alcohol, and not one separated any menthol when cooled to -10° C. with the addition of a few crystals of pure menthol. At the present time I find considerably more adulterated samples than pure ones.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re WILLIAM WILKINSON, Market Harborough, Chemist and Druggist.—Debtor appeared for his public examination at the Leicester Bankruptcy Court on November 28. Mr. Bray, who appeared on behalf of the trustee, having stated that the information supplied by the bankrupt was satisfactory, the examination was ordered to be closed.

Re HENRY WEMYSS FIELDEN ALLAN, 101 High Street, Kirkcaldy, Chemist and Druggist.—At Kirkcaldy Bankruptcy Court on November 28 debtor was examined before Sheriff Gillespie. He stated he commenced business in Kirkcaldy in 1885, when he had 180*l.* of capital. The business was fairly remunerative. In 1889 he opened another shop in Dysart. In 1891 or 1892 he took over a shop in Pathhead. The fittings for the business cost 89*l.*, and he had advanced Mrs. Coutts, the former owner, 100*l.*, and had also paid two bills amounting to about 20*l.* or 30*l.* In 1898 he opened a shop in Glebe Park. These shops were not profitable. Taking one with another, there was from 60*l.* to 80*l.* a year of profit, exclusive of the Kirkcaldy shop. In 1898 or 1899 Mr. McLaren joined him in the partnership of Pathhead and Dysart shops. He put 500*l.* capital into the business. That partnership was dissolved in June, 1901. They dissolved partnership on the balance taken the previous December. In June, 1901, Mr. McLaren acquired the sole right to the Glebe Park business. He got 500*l.* from Mr. McLaren in 1901, in August 50*l.*, and in October 220*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.* These sums were lodged partly in the bank. He had a fire in his store at Charlotte Street, by which he lost 960*l.* He had over 1,400*l.* worth in the store, and he only got 280*l.* from the insurance company. There was a dispute about the matter, as his policy was for the premises at 82 High Street. All his books for the Kirkcaldy business, except what he had in the High Street shop, were destroyed. The firm's books were left with Mr. McLaren at Pathhead. His state of affairs showed his assets to be 1,037*l.*, and the liabilities 1,283*l.* The examination was adjourned.

THE recipe of Dr. King's dandelion-and-quinine bilious and liver pill, which has for the past five years yielded net profit at the rate of about 905*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.* per annum, is to be sold at the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, Lothbury, E.C., on Wednesday, December 10, at 1 o'clock precisely.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: December 4.

DECEMBER is usually a quiet month, and the opening week has proved no exception to the rule. Bromides have been the principal topic, the market having collapsed under the influence of low offers from the United States. The European syndicate, which is controlled from Stassfurt, will in all probability reply with a substantial reduction, but up to the time of writing no definite announcement had been made. Apart from this there are few alterations. Quinine has improved slightly in price and demand, but has turned quiet again during the past two or three days. Ipecacuanha, with a fair business, continues the upward tendency noted last week. Ergot and menthol are quiet and easier inclined. Peppermint oils are firm, but also quiet; while oil of wintergreen is dearer. Star-aniseed oil closed weaker last week owing to the depreciation in silver, but since then there has been a slight recovery. Present price is low, and may be taken advantage of by speculators. Cod-liver oil is offered more freely in small lots from Norway, which leaves the impression that it is not so scarce as had been currently reported. Cocoa-butter was lower in auction, both in London and Amsterdam. Cream of tartar, of druggists' quality, is firmer, hyposulphite of soda is easier, and nitrate of silver is lower. The following are the principal alterations of the week:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Camphor (crude)	Benzol	Ergot	Bromides
Canary-seed	Cream of	Menthol	Cocoa-butter
Ipecacuanha	tartar	Oil (cod-liver)	Damiana-
Oil, cubeb	Oil, lemon	Pepper (Sing.	leaves
Oil, winter-		black)	Oil, dill
green		Shellac	Oil, orris (con-
Pimento		Soda, hypo-	crete)
Quinine (sec.		sulphite	Silver nitrate
hands)			
Senega (c.i.f.)			
Vanilla			

Java Quinine-tender.

At the tender of Java quinine sulphate at Batavia on Wednesday, November 26, 4,100 kilos. Ed. II were offered, of which 300 kilos. were sold at an average of 16*l*. per kilo. (about 9*l*. per oz.), or equal to a 6c. Amsterdam unit. The price obtained at the October auction was 17*l*. per kilo.

London Vanilla-auctions.

The following dates have been fixed for 1903: January 28, February 25, March 25, May 6, June 5, July 1, August 26, September 23, October 21, and December 2.

Amsterdam Cocoa-butter Auctions.

At the auction held at Amsterdam on December 2, 80 tons of Van Houten's brand sold at 59*l*. to 61c. per half-kilo. (average price 60c.), against 65.10c. at the previous auctions; 31 tons Bensdorp's were offered, of which 18 tons sold at 58c., and the balance was bought in. Of 13 tons De Jong offered, 1,100 kilos. sold at 58*l*.c., the balance being bought in, and of 9 tons Mignon offered, 2,500 kilos. sold at 57*l*.c. Eight tons Helm, 23 ton

Mercuurstaaf, and 9½ tons foreign brands were bought in. Compared with the previous auction, prices were lower all round.

Cablegrams.

SMYRNA, December 2:—The sales of opium for the week ending Wednesday amount to 100 cases, at from 6s. 8d. to 6s. 10d. per lb., f.o.b., Smyrna, principally for American account. Market remains firm.

HAMBURG, December 4:—Japanese dementhrolised peppermint oil is firm at 23m. per kilo. German refined camphor is also firm at 425m. per 100 kilos. Menthol is scarce, and Carnauba wax firm.

NEW YORK, December 4:—A quiet tone prevails. Peppermint oil in bulk is firmer at \$4.75. per lb.⁷. Seneca is strong at 70c. per lb.; and both Rio and Cartagena ipecacuanha have advanced to \$1.70 and \$1.20 per lb., respectively. Cod-liver oil is also advancing, \$45 per barrel being now quoted for best non-congealing oil. Damiana-leaves have been reduced to 9c. per lb.; and Cape aloes is scarce at 10c. per lb.

ACID, OXALIC.—In reference to the recent combination of German makers, it is pointed out to us that Pritchard's, of Swansea, are not in the combination, and that quotations can be obtained as usual through their London agent.

ALCOHOL.—German potato-spirit has again advanced, and prices, from the initiation of the first upward movement, show a distinct rise of 1d. per proof gal. from the lowest point. The restriction of the output and the considerably increased consumption during October (by which stocks in Germany have been reduced by one-quarter) have all contributed to the higher range of prices. Druggists' quality (56 and 68 o.p.) is now quoted in contract-quantities at from 7d. to 7½d. net per proof gal., delivered in bond in casks or drums. Perfumers' quality is about 2d. more than the above prices. It is stated that by reason of the failure of the notorious Trebertrocknung Gesellschaft last year, and the consequent disturbance in that branch of manufacture, there is now a scarcity of wood alcohol and crude acetate of lime in Germany.

ANTIMONY.—Chinese in ton lots is quoted from Hamburg at 12s. 9d. per cwt., c.i.f.

ARROWROOT.—A parcel of fine St. Vincents, offered at the spice auctions on Wednesday, was bought in at 5½d. per lb.

BALSAM TOLU.—Genuine is quoted 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d. per lb., according to quality, and a fair business has been put through. There are several adulterated parcels on the market.

BENZOIN.—About 180 cases of mostly Sumatra description have arrived, comprising good to ordinary qualities. Since the auctions there has been a fair demand, and the bulk of the lots offered theretofore have now been sold at steady prices. Palembang in tins has been sold privately at 35s. per cwt.

BROMIDES.—The market has collapsed under the influence of a low offer from the United States by an agent on this side, who on Saturday last quoted potassium bromide, in 5-ease lots, at 1s. 2d. per lb., c.i.f., and since then he reports that small orders have been cabled out and accepted at the price. Business here, in consequence, has since been suspended, and prices are nominal pending the action of the German bromine syndicate. It is anticipated that a substantial reduction in prices of bromide salts will follow, but on 'Change to-day (Thursday) nothing definite was forthcoming as to what retaliatory measures were to be taken. As matters now stand the trade here is disorganized, the position being very unsatisfactory from a wholesale point of view. Previous to the collapse the quotation of potassium bromide, in half-ton lots, was 1s. 10½d. In connection with this matter, one of the British makers of bromides has sent out the following circulars:—

I.

December 1.

The struggle between American manufacturers has followed a usual course, and we understand that low priced parcels are now offered on this market. We have the matter under consideration, and can only advise our friends to refrain from buying, pending immediate readjustment of prices.

II.

December 3.

We regret that up to the moment we have been unable to fix the revised prices. Having to confer with continental firms causes much delay, and we

therefore ask your further indulgence. We still advise you to refrain from buying outside parcels, and trust to-morrow to be in a position to give you definite information.

BUCHU.—The s.s. *Braemar Castle*, from Cape Town, has arrived with 14 bales. From second hands a few bales of round green leaves are offered at 1s. 1d. per lb.

CAMPHOR.—German refined is very firm, bells being quoted in second-hands at 1s. 11d. per lb., c.i.f. The monopoly have advanced price of crude Chinese to 157s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f., and pressed to 167s. 6d. There are sellers of Japanese at 160s., c.i.f.

CANARY-SEED is again dearer, 57s. 6d. per quarter having been paid for Turkish on the spot.

CANTHARIDES.—Russian, of the new crop, is quoted 2s. 4½d. per lb., c.i.f.

CASTORUM.—The annual sales are to be held on Wednesday next, December 10, when some 1,800 lbs. will be offered by the Hudson Bay Company, and about 500 lbs. on behalf of Messrs. Lampson & Co.

CHLORAL HYDRATE.—It has been decided in the United States Circuit Court that this article is dutiable at 25 per cent. *ad val.*, instead of 55c. per lb., which will probably result in a reduction of the selling-price to about 45c. The Government has thirty days in which to appeal from the above decision, and no material change is expected in values the United States until that period has expired.

CINCHONA.—As already mentioned the auction at Amsterdam to be held on December 11 will consist of 8,799 bales and 382 cases, weighing 788,677 kilos. The total weight of quinine sulphate in the bark is 41,248 kilos. (1,443,680 oz.). The average percentage of quinine in the manufacturing-bark is 5.74 per cent., and there are 645,045 kilos. of it to be offered, containing 37,002 kilos. quinine sulphate, the remaining 143,632 kilos being druggists' bark, and containing 4,230 kilos. q.s. The first-hand stock in Amsterdam on November 30 consisted of 3,734 packages Government culture and 14,641 packages private culture. The shipments from Java during November amounted to 965,000 Amst. lbs. (1,060,000 Eng. lbs.), against 1,185,000 Amst. lbs. last year and 1,490,000 Amst. lbs. in 1900. The total for the eleven months is 11,843,000 Amst. lbs., against 11,333,000 and 9,650,000 Amst. lbs. in 1901 and 1900 respectively.

COCOA-BUTTER was lower in auction; 80 tons of Cadbury's brand sold at from 11½d. to 11¾d., with two lots at 1s. to 1s. 0½d. per lb.

COLOCYNTH is getting scarce, and for good bold white Turkey apple 1s. 8d. per lb. is asked.

CREAM OF TARTAR is firmer, at 77s. 6d. per cwt. for druggists' quality, ex wharf.

CUBERS.—The exports of cubeb from Java during the first nine months of the year have been:—

	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898
Pic. ...	1,526	2,091	4,117	2,461	1,789

DAMIANA-LEAVES are lower, and 5d. per lb., c.i.f., would probably be accepted.

ERGOT is easier, under the influence of freer offers and arrivals. Spanish is quoted 1s. 3½d. and Russian 1s. 3½d. per lb., c.i.f.

GAMBIER.—Cubes have been slow of sale, at 42s. 6d. per cwt., on the spot, and for arrival December-January shipment offers at 36s. 6d. ex quay terms.

GAMBOGE.—The market is now very bare again, as the parcels ex auctions have been cleared at 15s. 10d. per cwt. for good bright slightly blocky pipe. Eighteen cases have arrived per *Manitou* from New York.

IPÉCACUANHA.—The stock in the warehouses on November 30 amounted to 602 packages of Rio and 394 packages of Cartagena. During November 190 packages were delivered. Since the auctions some thirty to forty bales have changed hands, mostly for speculation, and 6s. 9d. to 7s. per lb. is now quoted for natural Rio, and it is said the outside figure has been paid. For Cartagena, from 4s. 3d. to 4s. 7d. is asked, and the outside figure has been paid for good. There have been no arrivals.

LIQUORICE-ROOT.—According to a British consular report the quantity of liquorice-root collected in the Trans-

Caucasus in the spring of the present year was about 20,000 tons. Half of this quantity will in all probability be exported to America before the end of the year, and the other half, which under ordinary circumstances would be sent forward in the spring of 1903, is more likely than not to lie in the Caucasus until the end of next year. It is predicted that a decided fall in the forward prices for liquorice root is likely to take place before very long.

Lycopodium in cases is quoted 2s. 1½d. per lb. for double-sifted, and in double bags at 2s. 0½d., both c.i.f.

MENTHOL is quiet and easy, at 27s. per lb. nominally for Kobayashi crystals. From Hamburg single tins of Kobayashi are quoted at 27s. 6d. per lb., while a few cases near at hand are offered at 27s.; October-December shipment (Yazawa), 22s.; and December-January shipment (Kobayashi), at 21s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f.

MYRRH.—There has been a direct arrival of 50 packages from Aden, 25 of which were in transit for New York. The remainder, it is expected, will comprise good sorts, for which 90s. to 95s. is quoted.

OIL, CAMPHOR, is scarce, at from 35s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt. for light Japanese.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—The London market is firmer than what it was last week, quotations ranging from 185s. to 195s. per barrel, c.i.f., for finest non-congealing Lofoten oil, down to 172s. 6d., e.i.f. It is reported that about 185s., c.i.f., has been paid for finest, and on the spot 190s. is quoted. In another quarter it is stated that offers of small lots from Norway are more free, and that 172s. 6d., c.i.f., has been paid. Our Bergen correspondent writes on November 29 that there is no alteration in the cod-liver oil market, buyers being reserved at the last quotation of 160s. per barrel, f.o.b., for non-congealing oil, and the available stocks are practically *nil*. The exports from Bergen to date amount to 8,906 barrels, against 12,408 barrels at the same date last year.

OIL, CUBEB.—English has been slightly advanced to 4s. 9d. per lb.

OIL, DILL.—English is quoted 6d. lower, at 8s. 6d. per lb., but B.P. is unchanged, at 11s. 6d.

OIL, EUCALYPTUS, has been in good demand, and several hundred cases are reported to have changed hands.

OIL, LEMON, is higher at from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per lb., c.i.f., according to brand.

OIL, ORRIS (CONCRETE), is cheaper, being now listed at 14s. per oz.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—American HGH is firm, and 20s. 6d. per lb. has been paid, also 11s. for Japanese dementholisised. From Hamburg, Japanese dementholisised oil is quoted 9s. 9d. for September-October shipment (Yazawa brand), and October-December shipment, 9s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f.

OIL, WINTERGREEN, is dearer, at 6s. 6d. per lb., spot.

OIL, WOOD.—For February-April steamer shipment sellers ask 23s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f.

OPIUM is quiet, the principal demand being for soft shipping at 14s. 3d. and 8s. 9d. for Salonica; Persian is also dull of sale.

SMYRNA, November 21.—The sales for the week amount to about 60 cases, mostly for the United States, at 7s. 2d. per lb., f.o.b., for Karahissar talequale, 7s. 3d. for current Yerli talequale, and 6s. 8d. for secondary manufacturing material. The weather is cold and dry, and the reports from the interior regarding the sowings continue to be unsatisfactory. The demand, however, from consumers continues slack, and, with large stocks, a higher market cannot be expected. On the other hand, a decline is hardly possible, owing to the failure of the sowings.

POTASH CHLORATE remains exceedingly cheap at from 3d. to 3½d. per lb. net, and powder at 3d. to 3½d.; 3d. is quoted, f.o.b. Liverpool.

QUININE.—The bark-shipments from Java for November, which are looked upon as favourable, gave a better tone to the "outside" market, and before the conclusion of last week a small business was done in German sulphate in bulk at 11½d. to 11¾d. for December delivery; at 1s. for May. This week the market opened with more activity, spot selling at

11½d., March at 11½d. to 1s., and May 1s. 0½d. Since then, however, the market has turned quiet, and on Wednesday 10,000 oz. for delivery March sold at 11¾d.

The exports of quinine from Java during September amounted to 287 cases, 206 of which were shipped to New York, 37 to Japan, and 44 cases to Singapore. From January 1 to September 30 the shipments have been—

	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898
Cases ...	1,121	1,307	1,487	1,467	854

The exports of quinine, quinine preparations, &c., from Germany during the eight months ending August amounted to—

	1902	1901	1900
Kilos ...	134,400	136,900	120,800

RHUBARB.—About 80 cases of high-dried have arrived this week.

SAFFRON is firm at from 31s. 6d. to 32s. per lb. for finest B.P. quality; and for yellowish, also B.P., 29s. is quoted.

SARSAPARILLA.—There have been no arrivals of grey Jamaica, but 40 bales are near at hand. From second-hands 1s. 5d. is quoted. Good Honduras is scarce and inquired for.

SEEDLAC.—Of 52 bags Karachi offered at auction, 12 sold at 5s. 17s. 6d. for good clean pale; and 96s. for blocky.

SENEGA.—There is a small inquiry, the spot price being unchanged at 3s. net; and to arrive 3s., c.i.f., is quoted.

SENNA.—The ss. *Nanking* is due on Saturday with 186 bales Tinnevelly leaf, and the ss. *Oriental* also brings 11 bales.

SHELLAC has been dull throughout the week, and few sales of importance have been made on the spot market; for fair Second Orange TN 122s. to 124s. per cwt. has been paid for fair, cash terms. Futures have been fluctuating, and are lower on the week. At the public sales there was a slow demand, and of the 212 chests offered only 40 sold, including fair pale, part blocky, Second Orange at 121s. per cwt., and good free 126s., being easier.

SILVER NITRATE.—The agent for one of the leading makers has reduced his price for 100-oz. lots of crystals to 1s. 2½d. per oz.

SODA HYPOSULPHITE is easier, casks being quoted at 5s. 2s. 6d., and kegs 5s. 12s. 6d. per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool. Spot is 6s. 15s. for kegs.

SPERMACETE.—American refined is offered from Hamburg at 1s. 0½d. per lb.

SPICES.—At auction on Wednesday Cochin *Ginger* was steady, but not in much demand; washed rough was bought in at 40s. per cwt., a bid of 37s. 6d. being refused; for Calicut brown rough 34s. was declined, the parcels being bought in at 38s. One lot of medium and small native cut sold at 55s.; brownish "C" cut was bought in at 50s. per cwt., and bold cut at 75s. A small proportion of the Jamaica offered sold at 36s. 6d. to 38s. per cwt. for ordinary dull. Zanzibar *Cloves* were bought in at 4½d. per lb. for fair quality; the price for delivery has fluctuated during the week, declining to 4½d., and recovering to 4½d., and closing on Wednesday at 4½d. per lb. A small lot of Japan *Chillies* sold at 41s. per cwt. *Capsicums* partly sold at 19s. per cwt. for small East India cherries, at 14s. for dull red East India on stalk, and at 45s. for fine Egyptian. *Pimento* dearer; part sold common at 2½d. to 2½d. per lb., and middling at 2½d. to 2½d., with one lot at 2½d. *Cassia-lignea* sold at 46s. per cwt. for new selected, and loose at 45s. to 46s. Broken twiggy was bought in at 22s. per cwt., and *Cassia-vera* at 26s. per cwt. Singapore black *Pepper* was again slightly easier, fair sold at 5½d. to 6d., and greyish at 5½d. per lb. Alleppey was bought in at 6d., and Wynnaid at 6½d. per lb. Singapore white was held for 9½d. per lb., good Coriander kind sold at 10d., good washed being bought in at 10½d. Penang is quoted 9½d. per lb.

SUGAR OF MILK.—From Hamburg 38s. 6d., c.i.f., is quoted for American.

THYMOL.—In little demand at from 6s. to 6s. 3d. per lb., according to quantity.

TURMERIC.—At the drysalteries auctions 840 bags were offered, of which 261 sold "without reserve" at from 9s. 9d. to 10s. 9d. per cwt. for fair bright yellow but very wormy Madras finger. Three hundred odd bags of Cochin finger

were bought in at from 9s. to 10s. 6d. for more or less wormy.

VANILLA.—At the auction on Wednesday the twelve hundred odd tins offered met with an excellent demand, and the bulk, mostly Seychelles, sold at an average advance of from 1s. 6d. to 2s. per lb. on the previous auction prices. The following were among the prices paid: Fair to good chocolate, part crystallised, 8 to 9 inches, 24s. to 28s. 6d.; 7 to 8 inches, 17s. to 25s.; 6 to 7 inches, 12s. to 18s. 6d.; 5 to 6 inches, 10s. to 14s. Common brown, 6s. to 10s. 6d. per lb.

VANILLIN.—A Continental report states that in spite of the present large consumption of vanillin, competition has become keener than ever, and the article was never so cheap. Makers think, however, prices have touched their lowest point.

WAX, BEES'.—The exports of wax from Tunis during 1901 were 35 tons (4,593*l.*), against 79 tons (5,654*l.*) in 1900, and 73 tons (5,221*l.*) in 1899.

WAX, JAPANESE.—Steady, with small sales of good squares at 60s. per cwt.

Liverpool Drug-market.

Liverpool, December 3.

CASTOR OIL.—No new feature can be recorded in connection with this product, and 2*7/8*d. per lb. ex quay and 2*1/2*d. in store is asked for good seconds Calcutta and first-pressure French. Second-pressure French is held for 2*3/4*d. per lb.

QUILLIA.—Though transactions are limited in proportion, the recent advance is well maintained, and 21s. per cwt. is still asked. Higher prices are still looked for.

GRAINS OF PARADISE.—Sales are reported of ton-lots at 40s. per cwt., and some holders ask 45s. to 46s.

CANARY-SEED.—Considerably dearer for the week, and 55s. to 57s. 6d. per qr. has been paid for 600 bags of Barbary seed, and 158 bags Turkish have been sold at 57s. 6d. and 200 bags at 59s. per qr., and now holders say that they cannot accept the latter figure.

ACACIA SORTS.—There has been less activity among buyers during the week, but prices have hardened, in consequence of the firmer views of holders. Soft Soudan sorts are now held for 35s. per cwt., while good ambery parcels are held for 30s. to 31s.

BEESWAX.—Eighteen packages of Chilian are reported as being sold at 7*1/2*s. per cwt. For a parcel of Gambia (W.C.A.) 7*1/2*. 2s. 6d. was bid in auction, but 7*1/2*. 5s. is asked by holders.

TONKA BEANS.—Further sales of frosted Pará are reported at 1s. 6d. per lb.

HONEY of all descriptions is very firmly held.

IRISH MOSS.—Sales of common are reported at 11s. per cwt.

German Drug-market.

Hamburg, December 2.

Business in general is quiet, but our drug-market shows a fair business in some articles.

AGAR-AGAR is quoted dearer from abroad; spot values for prime are 315*m.*, and current grey 285*m.* per 100 kilos.

ANISEED.—Russian is firm, at 31*m.* per 100 kilos.

BALSAM PERU is better, at 10*1/2**m.* to 11*m.* per kilo.

CAMPHOR (REFINED) is firm, at 420*m.* to 424*m.* per 100 kilos.

CONDURANGO is stronger; 110*m.* per 100 kilos. is now asked.

KOLA.—Tending firmer, at from 65*m.* to 70*m.* per 100 kilos.

ERGOT.—Russian is quoted 295*m.* to 300*m.*, and Spanish 295*m.* to 300*m.* per 100 kilos.

MYRRH continues scarce, at 160*m.* per 100 kilos.

GALANGAL is dull of sale, at 28*m.* per 100 kilos.

IPECACUANHA is strong, and higher. Rio is quoted 14*m.* and Cartagena 9*1/2**m.* per kilo.

JALAP is firm, with a fair demand at 110*m.* per 100 kilos.

MENTHOL is firm, spot being quoted 60*m.*, and forward 57*1/2**m.* to 58*m.* per kilo., while Japan quotes 65*m.*

SENEGA remains firm, at 650*m.* per 100 kilos.

WAX (JAPANESE) is strong, at 105*m.* spot, and 100*m.* per 100 kilos. afloat.

OILS (FIXED).—Cod-liver oil is unchanged, at 185*m.* per barrel. Castor is neglected. Linseed and cotton are firm.

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—Peppermint is firmly held, at 20*m.* per lb. for H.G.H. Japanese is rising, and Japan is reported to be sold out; 22*m.* per kilo. has been paid on the spot. Star-anise is firm, at 11*m.* per kilo.

American Drug-market.

New York, November 25.

Business generally is good, and the market is free from speculative tendencies.

ALOES.—Cape is in very light supply, and the spot stock is firmly held at 10c. per lb.

BEESWAX is quiet and unchanged, with supplies of ordinary pure yellow obtainable at 27*c.* per lb. upwards.

CAMPHOR has declined to 5*4/5*c. per lb. in barrels.

COCA-LEAVES.—Huanuco have sold freely, and values are firm at 28c. to 30c. per lb.

COCAINE is moving upwards, and quotations have further advanced to \$4 per oz. in bulk.

ERGOT.—Spanish is higher at 33*c.* to 36*c.*, but Russian is unchanged at 32*c.*

GAMBoge is scarce, and prices for pipe have advanced to 65*c.*, with some dealers asking a still higher figure. Block is firmer at 62*c.* per lb.

IPECACUANHA.—Cartagena is firmer, and \$1 is now asked on the spot. Rio remains dull, and can be bought at \$1.50.

JAPAN WAX is easier owing to arrivals, and 10c. per lb. will now buy.

PEPPERMINT OIL is quiet, but no change in prices has occurred, and from present indications current prices will be maintained for some time to come. Oil on the spot can be bought in bulk at \$4.50, and H.G.H. at \$5 to \$5.25 per lb.

OPIUM is firmer at \$2.72*1/2* for case lots.

SENEGA.—Some demand has sprung up, and quotations have advanced to 70c. per lb. Sales for export have been made up to 67c. per lb.

SERPENTARY is firmly held at 45c. per lb.

Arrivals.

The following drugs, chemicals, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from November 18 to 26, inclusive:—Acetone, 10; acid, carbolic (@ Rotterdam), 50 cks.; acid, oxalic (@ Rotterdam), 10; acid, tartaric (@ Rotterdam), 10; albumen (@ Rotterdam), 5; alum (@ Beyrouth), 20 brls.; alumina sulphate (@ Ghent), 283; aniseed (@ Konigsberg), 22; antimony (@ Shanghai), 250 cs.; antimony regulus (@ Rouen), 20; arrow-root (@ St. Vincent) 229 brls. 9 pkgs., (@ Natal) 48, (@ Halifax, N.S.) 155; asafetida (@ Bunder Abbas), 177; bismuth ore (@ Sydney), 3; bleaching-powder (@ Rotterdam) 106, (@ Autwerp) 135, (@ Triport) 90, (@ Hamburg) 56; borax (@ Hamburg) 116, (@ Mollendo) 625, (@ Valparaiso) 6,698, (@ Arica) 638; calcium chloride (@ Hamburg), 100; camphor (@ Kobé) 50 cs., (@ Antwerp) 2; caraway-seed (@ Rotterdam) 25, (@ Amsterdam) 10; canary-seed (@ Constantinople) 300 *in tr.*, (@ Rodosto) 1,460; cardamoms (@ Colombo), 68; cassia oil (@ Hamburg), 39; castor oil (@ Antwerp) 111 cks., (@ Leghorn) 118 cs.; chamomiles (@ Ghent), 31; chloral hydrate (@ Rotterdam), 10; cinchona (@ Calicut) 46, (@ Colombo) 10, (@ Mollendo) 94; coca-leaves (@ Colombo), 4 cs.; cod-liver oil (@ Aalesund) 325, (@ Bergen) 101, (@ Christiania) 13; coriander-seed, 20; cumin-seed (@ Malta) 40; cuscus (@ Cochin), 10; drugs (@ Havre) 40, (@ Hamburg) 5 bls. 21 pkgs., (@ Fiume) 126, (@ New York) 155, (@ Dieppe) 4; ergot (@ Hamburg), 13; essential oils (@ Hong-Kong) 25, (@ Hamburg) 35, (@ Amsterdam) 6, (@ Boulogne) 17 pkgs., (@ New York) 70, (@ Messina) 79 pkgs., (@ Ostend) 8; feugreek-seed (@ Sidon), 96; galangal (@ Hong-Kong), 67; gentian (@ Bordeaux), 16; gum, sandarac (@ Mogador), 22; glycerin (@ Brisbane) 43, (@ Dunedin) 400; gum, unenumerated (@ Persia) 435 bgs. 142 cs., (@ Suez) 265, (@ Mogador) 60 pkgs.; honey (@ Talcahuano), 35; juniper-berries (@ Leghorn) 450; lemongrass oil (@ Cochin), 100; lime-juice (@ Dominica) 184, (@ Halifax, &c.) 52 lhdhs. 222 pns.; lime oil (@ Dominica), 35; liquorice (@ Batoum) 400 cs., (@ Catania) 30 cs.; liquorice-juice (@ Marseilles), 26; mastic (@ Smyrna), 2; nux vomica (@ Cochin), 831; olive oil (@ Geuoa) 46, (@ Barat) 95 pkgs. 4 cks.; opium (@ Smyrna) 69, (@ Marseilles) 15, (@ Constantinople) 52, (@ Bushire) 42, (@ Sam-soun) 17, (@ Salonica) 213; orris (@ Leghorn), 168; peppermint oil (@ Yokohama), 15 *in tr.*; phosphorus (@ Hamburg), 36; pimento (@ Jamaica), 247; pot. carb. (@ Tréport), 15; pot. caustic (@ Hamburg) 24, (@ Tréport) 20; pot. chlor. (@ Treport) 20, (@ Gothenburg) 120; pot. cyanide (@ Hamburg) 120; pot. oxalate (@ Rotterdam), 35; pot. permang. (@ Hamburg), 40; pot. pruss. (@ Hamburg), 32; quicksilver (@ Oporto), 15; roots (@ Hamburg) 15, (@ New York) 26; rose-leaves (@ Mogador), 12; saffron (@ Valencia), 6; sal ammoniac (@ Amsterdam), 49; sandalwood (@ Bombay), 55; senna (@ Bombay) 179, 23 pods, (@ Alexandria) 10 cs., (@ Suez) 13; shellac (@ Calcutta) 803 chts., button ditto 200; soda, carbonate (@ Hamburg), 5; spermactet (@ New York), 70; squills (@ Messina), 11; sulphur (@ Catania), 50 tons 68 brls. 608 bgs.; sugar of lead (@ Stettin), 14; tamarinds (@ Madras), 150; tartar (@ Barcelona) 103, (@ Rotterdam) 16, (@ Bordeaux) 137, (@ Amsterdam) 53; tonka-beans (@ Para), 29 cs.; tragacanth (@ Bushire) 648 cs. 17 bgs., (@ Bombay) 30; turmeric (@ Madras) 149, (@ Bombay) 214; wax, bees' (@ Spain) 36, (@ Shanghai) 128, (@ Morocco) 19, (@ Talcahuano) 11; wax, Carnauba (@ Pernambuco), 16; wax, ceresin (@ Hamburg) 60, (@ Rotterdam) 60 wiue-lees (@ Alicante), 427.

THE value of beeswax exported from British Central Africa during 1901-2 amounted to 729*l.*, against 642*l.* in 1900-1.

General Medical Council.

THE autumn session commenced in London on Tuesday, November 25, terminated on Tuesday, December 2. We alluded last week to the first and second days' proceedings.

THE PENAL CASES

commenced on the Wednesday with the hearing of a charge of infamous conduct in a professional respect against a medical practitioner—Alfred H. Goodwyn, Budleigh Salterton, Devon, who last year was sentenced to four months' imprisonment for stealing jewellery. Defendant has now left the country for Australia, and Mr. Hawke, who had defended him at the Exeter Quarter Sessions, explained to the Council that the felonies were not concerned with defendant in his professional capacity—he was not then practising at all. Mr. Goodwyn, who had obtained the goods on approbation from three jewellers in succession and pawned them, had given addresses by which he could be, and was, readily identified. The inference was that he was not fully responsible mentally. After a very lengthy deliberation, the Council decided that A. H. Goodwyn's name must be erased from the Medical Register.

The next case arose out of a doctor's conviction and imprisonment for four months for manslaughter. The defendant was James William Ayres, L.R.C.P.E. and L.S.A.,



EDWARD JOHN SMITH



JAMES WILLIAM AYRES,

Liverpool, and he appeared to conduct his own case. It was, he stated emphatically at the outset, a case of death by misadventure, not of manslaughter. Deceased, the defendant's late servant, came into the surgery in a state of intoxication, begging to be taken back in Mr. Ayres's service, from which he had been discharged three days before—he had been discharged for drunkenness three times within two years, but had been reinstated, as he was a faithful servant when sober. Mr. Ayres ordered the man out, and, as he became abusive, ejected him, and, to ward off a blow, struck him, and deceased tripped on the pavement. Mr. Ayres dashed water on his face, and saw him assisted home; he was a strong, vigorous man, and the accused did not imagine for a moment that he was seriously injured. He lay at home for six days, and died in the hospital four days after that. The report of the trial at the Liverpool Assizes, read by the Council's solicitor, showed that the jury found that deceased died of fracture of the skull. After deliberation, the President announced that the Council did not intend to erase Mr. Ayres's name from the Register.

A considerable time was spent over the case of Edward John Smith, Balsall Heath Road, Birmingham, Lic. Soc. Apoth. Lond. 1888, Mem. R. Coll. Surg. Eng. 1885, summoned to appear before the Council to answer a charge of having been guilty of infamous conduct in a professional respect by seeking to attract practice by a system of extensive public advertisements containing his name, address, and qualifications, and invitations to persons in need of medical aid to consult him professionally, the advertisements so systematically published being themselves of a character discreditable to a professional medical man. Dr. Bateman, for the Medical Defence Union, laid the complaint, and Mr. Schultess-Young, who represented Mr. Smith, examined the latter, who was

also interrogated by several members of the Council. Mr. Smith showed none of the usual symptoms of trepidation, but was very ready with his answers and explanations, his facts and his visiting-lists, and stated that he was the most popular medical man, with the most extensive and successful practice, at Balsall Heath. The first distribution of circulars took place in November, 1901, a second in December, and the third (or threepenny ones) in January of the present year. Mr. Smith said that at that time he was very busy indeed, making from 120 to 150 visits a week, and these free circulars were given, to the injury of his practice, openly and honestly, purely and simply as a charity, during a time of exceptional distress in Birmingham. They were all given to the very poorest and to charitable institutions. He had to make this nominal charge of 3*l*, later because he was absolutely unable to cope with the numbers who came to his surgery. Asked if he had done anything with regard to the penny clubs, Mr. Smith said he had tried to put them down, and was known as the enemy of the penny-clubber. After much examination, cross-examination, and about an hour's deliberation *in camera*, the President announced to Mr. Smith that the facts alleged against him had been proved, and added that the Council took a serious view of his conduct; but, in order to give him an opportunity to reconsider his position, they adjourned the further consideration of the charge until the next session, when he will have to appear and satisfy the Council as to his conduct in the interval.

The case of James Ralph Collyer, M.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P., Peterborough, summoned to appear before the Council on a charge of covering, was soon disposed of, information having been received that the unfortunate man had within the last few days been placed in a lunatic asylum, and "accordingly the Council did not propose to proceed with the hearing of the case."

William Arthur Jones, Albany Road, London, registered as Lic. Soc. Apoth., London, 1893, Lic. Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland, 1896, was summoned to appear to answer a charge of infamous conduct in a professional respect. The principal charges were (1) committing adultery with a woman in his employment, and on April 1, 1900, producing her premature delivery when she became pregnant; and (2) producing, on April 7, the premature delivery of Miss —, who had entered his house for her confinement. After deliberating all Thursday afternoon *in camera* over the case, it was publicly intimated—

That the Council do now judge William Arthur Jones to have been guilty of infamous conduct in a professional respect, and do direct the Registrar to erase from the register the name of William Arthur Jones.

A TITLE REMOVED.

A communication had been received from the Royal College of Surgeons respecting George Pearse Sargent, Brixton Road, S.W., L.F.P.S.G., M.D. Univ. St. And., L.S.A. Lond., and M.R.C.S., who had been adjudged by them guilty of disgraceful conduct in a professional respect, and accordingly removed from being a member of the College. In 1892 he issued certain handbills or circulars of an objectionable character, and, notwithstanding a promise given by him not to issue such handbills, he had again in and about 1901 caused similar handbills to be circulated to various persons, other than his patients, residing in his neighbourhood.

The President announced that the Council had directed the Registrar to erase from the Medical Register the qualification of Mem. R. Coll. Surg. Eng. 1863, appended to the entry of the name of Dr. Sargent.

PERSONATION.

A complete report on the whole subject of personation, prepared in accordance with a resolution passed by the Council last session, was presented by Sir Victor Horsley, received, and then entered on the minutes, and the following recommendations embodied in it were, after a little discussion, passed:—

1. No registration on the Students' Registers shall be effected unless application has been made for that purpose upon a form supplied by the Registrar.

2. Subject to the provisions of the Medical Act no registration on the Medical or Dental Register shall be effected unless application has been made for that purpose upon the forms supplied by the Registrars.

3. All forms of application for registration, duly signed, shall be preserved by the Registrar of the Branch Council to whom they may be presented in such manner as to be easily accessible for reference.

4. All applications for restoration to the Medical or Dental Register, or for registration in these Registers under exceptional circumstances, shall be accompanied by a statutory declaration furnished upon a form supplied by the Registrar.

It was arranged that the new forms for registration should come into use on April 1, 1903.

DENTAL BUSINESS.

The case of Mr. James Dixon Goy, Lincoln, registered as a dentist in practice before July 22, 1878, was reported upon by the Dental Committee. Mr. Goy had used in an advertisement the description L.D.S., Royal College of Surgeons, although he holds no licence from any English or Scotch College; but he at one time held the diploma of the Irish College.

Mr. Goy did not appear, nor was he represented, and therefore the President said the facts might be taken without question. Letters and telegrams sent to his registered and to another address, requiring his attendance, had not been delivered, the Post Office explained, in consequence of the addressee having gone away till Wednesday. A brass plate on Mr. Goy's door at Louth described him up to November 18 as L.D.S., and in a local newspaper of November 1 he was advertised as L.D.S. of the Royal Coll. of Surgeons. The Registrar had found and now read the letter received from the R.C.S. of Ireland, which stated that the College had cancelled Mr. Goy's diploma because he persistently violated its rules of not attracting attention by advertising.

The case might appear pretty evident, but the Council gave Mr. Goy the benefit of three-quarters of an hour's consideration *in camera*, when it was announced that his name would be erased from the Dental Register.

To this register were restored the names of Alfred G. Annette, Henry W. Edmondson, Frederick J. Lea, and Francis Watts.

A FINANCIAL REFORM BILL.

Consideration of the Medical Acts Amendment Bill, drafted, with the assistance of the legal advisers of the Council, by the Financial Relations Committee, occupied rather more than the whole of Saturday afternoon. Sir Victor Horsley, who had charge of the Bill, pointed out that the suggested changes fell under three heads—(1) the centralisation of income, all expenses being paid by the central authority, and all appointments proceeding from the General Council; (2) raising the registration-fee from 5*l.* to a sum not exceeding 10*l.*; (3) the levy of a students' registration-fee of 1*l.* With regard to the latter, the registration of students was not compulsory, but the Council had established it, and the Bill provided for its statutory right.

Sir J. Tuke, Mr. Brown, and Dr. Norman Moore were evidently anxious to go over the whole question of finances again. Dr. Moore protested that the Council, before asking the public to grant more money, must conclusively prove in the clearest possible way that economies on their part would not suffice. The members might be paid 3*l.* or 2*l.* a day, or nothing, which the public would regard with complacency—(laughter)—and the Council might consider it with propriety.

The President pointed out, however, that the committee had done what the Council had asked them to do. Members accordingly settled down to consider the Bill clause by clause in committee. The line which Dr. McVail took was to oppose it tooth and nail, and, with one or two supporters only, he made a gallant fight. He called for names and numbers on the counts being taken, and only refrained from recording his vote on each sub-clause on the assurance of the President that in opposing the fundamental principles his position was made quite clear and secure. Dr. McVail vehemently objected to the Branch Councils being deprived of the power of appointing or removing their own Registrar; it was absurd and preposterous to suppose that Scotch members would pass a Bill like that submitted. Sir Victor Horsley pointed out that if the General Council paid the officials, it followed that they would appoint also. A concession was made, at the suggestion of Sir C. Nixon, by which, while the Registrar of the Branch Council was

removed by the General Council, he might be suspended by the former.

With regard to the clause providing that all moneys should be transferred to the General Council, Dr. McVail declared that the Branches would be deprived of all power of initiation and economy, that the work would be better done, and an unnecessary expenditure of money be saved if the Branches acted independently. Mr. Brown also thought that by the Branch Councils doing work at their rate of two guineas a day, instead of the five guineas paid to the General Council, a great economy would be effected, and the work of the latter might be curtailed to three days a week. This clause was, however, also agreed to, Dr. McVail and Mr. Brown being the only dissentients.

As to the proposed raising of the registration-fee, Sir C. Nixon pointed out that on being admitted to the bar 50*l.* was paid for stamp-duty, for which no equivalent was given, and that 10*l.* was not much to pay for entering a great profession. He thought that in the face of a deficiency of from 1,500*l.* to 1,900*l.* a year it would be, to borrow Dr. McVail's terms, preposterous and absurd not to take steps for securing an adequate income. The committee had considered most carefully the various projects of economy on the part of the Council—to sit longer, to begin at 10, to commence on Monday—but these economies were so small they had no appreciable weight whatever. Dr. Bruce stated that he had started with the idea that economies should be effected, but after investigation he found they would be quite ineffective. Sir J. Tuke reminded the Council that the economy he had always advocated—that the members should sit without pay—was not a small one. Sir Victor admitted that that would be a large economy. Dr. Heron Watson supported Dr. Tuke. The motion that the fee be raised was, however, the one which commanded itself, only three voting against it.

Consideration of the Bill, twice postponed so that the solicitor might be consulted as to certain verbal alterations, was resumed on Tuesday, and, with the alterations suggested, it was placed on the minutes. Since the introduction of the Bill by Sir Victor Horsley, when its provisions were in the main agreed to in committee—Dr. McVail maintaining his fight against it almost single-handed—the attitude of the Council towards it had evidently much changed. Dr. Finlay on Tuesday carried, by eighteen votes to seven, a motion that the Bill be referred back to committee for further consideration, especially with regard to the economies possible. Sir J. Tuke threw the whole of his weight against the Bill, with damaging effect. He regretted that he had not had an opportunity sooner of informing the Council that after the meeting last July he consulted a friend—an Under-Secretary of State well versed in procedure—on the financial condition of the Council, and his advice, after giving the matter anxious consideration, was that it was not only expedient but an absolute duty on the part of the Council, as a body acting under the Privy Council, to lay a financial statement before the latter. The production of a Bill would be entirely premature, if not irregular. Sir John further held that the committee, in not touching the matter of economies, had not fulfilled its part, and he entirely disagreed with the Bill in every respect, believing that it would be opposed not only by the profession but by the public generally. Sir Victor Horsley replied, with some warmth, that the committee had been treated very unfairly by Sir John. Sir Wm. Thomson wished to add an instruction to the committee, by which the Bill would concern itself only with the section relating to raising the registration-fee. Dr. Pye Smith, however, gave voice to a generally felt objection to that section, and the previous question was put and carried.

ARMY PUBLIC HEALTH DIPLOMA.

The report of the Public Health Committee, brought up by Dr. Bruce on Monday, was chiefly concerned with a communication received from the Chairman of the Advisory Board for the Army Medical Service. The Board contemplated large and important changes in connection with sanitary administration in the army. It proposed to establish a higher grade of Army Medical officers, whose duty it will be to supervise the sanitary work of the ordinary Army Medical Staff, and they wished the Medical Council to sanction such additions to the present rules and regulations as would enable officers of the Army Medical Service to obtain a diploma in public health from any of the present

licensing bodies. The committee recommended the adoption, with certain restrictions, of such additions. Colonel Davies and Major McCulloch from the Advisory Board attended the Council as experts. Mr. Ball seconded the adoption of the report. Owing to the interest Mr. Brodrick took in the Army Medical Department, improvements have been made which could hardly fail, he said, to attract the better class of young practitioners. On the site of old Millbank a staff college is being built which will be fully equipped, and which will take the place of Netley Hospital. Sir J. Tuke and Dr. MacAlister, though jealous of the Council's regulations and deprecating any tinkering of its rules, thought that in this case no concession was being made, and the report was agreed to.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The report of the Education Committee was agreed to without discussion. A rather heated debate ensued on the reports of the Examination Committee. The report as to the Apothecaries' Hall, Dublin, stated that there were only two candidates; of these one had been rejected in all the subjects of the Final examination twice previously, and on the present occasion only managed to pass one subject; the other failed also, and spelt twenty-five words wrongly. The committee concluded its report with its usual reference to the "piece-meal" practice to which Mr. Tichborne entered his annual protest. Mr. Brown made a long and impassioned speech in defence of the Irish apothecaries. Sir William Thomson also deprecated the severity of the remarks made, and on his amendment they were omitted.

The report on the final examinations of Birmingham University was adopted.

The report of the Dental and Examination Committee embodied the following recommendations, which were adopted:—

That it is undesirable that any cognisance be taken of the possession of diplomas which are not registrable in this country; but that attendance on particular classes taken elsewhere may be accepted *ad eundem*, provided that the licensing body is satisfied that an adequate preliminary examination had been passed prior to the commencement of professional study. That an application which resolved itself virtually into a request for the registration of an American diploma granted by a College in Philadelphia be not acceded to.

PHARMACOPEIA REPORT.

The committee reported that up to the present date 33,013 copies of the British Pharmacopœia, 1898, 519 copies of the Indian and Colonial Addendum 1900, and 3,612 copies of the Government of India Edition 1901 have been disposed of. A fresh issue of 1,500 copies of the Pharmacopœia was ordered by the President in July; and the opportunity was taken to append a slip containing a few minor *corrigeenda*. The committee have not yet been able to arrange for the preparation of a digest of criticisms and researches bearing on the Pharmacopœia, for which a grant of 50*l.* was made at the May session of the Council. At the same session the Council agreed to offer a contribution of 100*l.* towards the expenses incurred by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain in carrying on certain valuable investigations relating to the revision of the Pharmacopœia. This contribution has been accepted by the Council of the Society.

A report from the Chairman (Dr. MacAlister) on the proceedings and results of the recent International Conference on Pharmacopœial Unification was appended. The committee stated that they recognise the high importance of the purpose contemplated by the Conference; and they have no doubt that the Council will be willing, when preparing a new Pharmacopœia, to give great weight to conclusions unanimously adopted by an assembly representative of the chief States of Europe and America. In order to continue and complete the work initiated by the Conference, it is proposed that an International Bureau should be established in Brussels for the purpose of affording to the various pharmacopœial authorities opportunities of inter-communication. The committee believe that such an office would be capable of rendering important international services; and they think it desirable that the Council should in a formal manner support the proposal of the Conference for its establishment. The committee therefore recommend that the President be requested to inform the Belgian Government, through the proper channels, that the General Medical Council approves the proposal to establish in Brussels an International Bureau of information on matters relating to pharmacopœial unification, and that it is willing, when desired, to nominate a correspondent representative of the British Pharmacopœia. The committee further reported that in connection with inquiries recently instituted as to the prevalence of arsenical contamination in certain drugs, it

appears desirable to submit to fresh investigation the tests for arsenium set forth in the Pharmacopœia. They accordingly propose to obtain technical assistance for this purpose. Thanks were accorded to Mrs. Leech, Dr. F. B. Power, Mr. C. G. Moor, Mr. Tichborne, Sir George Philipson, and Dr. Payne for valuable gifts to the library.

Dr. Payne, in seconding the motion of Dr. MacAlister for the adoption of the report, said that Dr. MacAlister went to Brussels at his own expense, and took considerable pains to see and interview the representatives of the different Governments. His tact and knowledge, and his ability to converse with the delegates in their own tongues, had conduced to definite action being taken, and to the Conference being induced to accept the Pharmacopœia details which had been recorded in the British Pharmacopœia. He proposed that a special vote of thanks be given to Dr. MacAlister for his services, not only to the Council, but to the country, in connection with the Brussels Conference. This was seconded by Dr. Heron Watson and carried. The motion on the report was also agreed to.

SIR VICTOR HORSLEY AND THE ROYAL COLLEGES.

Two or three motions levelled at the Royal Colleges by Sir Victor Horsley came before the Council. One—that the returns supplied by the Conjoint Board with regard to teaching institutions recognised by it and not approved by the Council, be referred to the Education Committee for consideration and report next session—was carried. Two other motions bore on the fact that the observations made by the Royal Colleges on the report of the Visitor and Inspector on the First examinations conducted by the Royal Colleges had not been communicated to the Council, although they were notoriously the subject of discussion in medical circles, and had been in the hands of 300 Fellows of the College of Physicians. The President, while sympathising with Sir Victor's feelings on the matter, pointed out that the 300 Fellows of the College of Physicians constituted the governing body. Sir Victor exclaimed that such a state of things was intolerable, and made an allusion to the "medieval state of things" at the time of the foundation of the College, which brought Dr. Norman Moore indignantly to his feet, demanding if the date (1518) was not that of the revival of learning. Dr. MacAlister drew attention to the fact that the reports were not sent to gratify the curiosity of the Council, but for them to deal with in a judicial capacity. A motion to the effect that all reports of visitors and inspectors, with the observations of the bodies inspected, be supplied when ready to the members of the Council, was ultimately put, 10 voting for and 11 against it.

OTHER BUSINESS.

It was agreed that the President he requested to appoint two persons to visit and report upon the examinations during 1903 in chemistry, physics, and biology of the Conjoint Boards in Scotland and Ireland, and the Society of Apothecaries in London.

A motion, "That in view of the extreme difficulty in obtaining a hearing for Bills introduced by private members, an active effort be made, by deputation or otherwise, to secure the interest of the Government in the Bills promoted by the Council," was introduced by Mr. Tomes. Mr. Tomes urged that the Council should put itself in evidence, and by a deputation of some magnitude claim support as a statutory body. The Council was, however, by this time fast putting itself out of evidence, its members melting away; and though the motion was carried the vote was by no means a full one. Some formal business was transacted, and the Council separated.

THE SUBJOINED is interesting as an example of wrong pronunciation. Free-drigh's-hall is how to pronounce the last word:—

"Franz Josef' loved a pretty girl,
Who always teased him so.
She flirted with Fred 'Flitwick.'
This put Franz in such a go.
"Unless you give up flirting
I'll not marry you at all"—
Thus remonstrated 'Franz Josef'.
But she answered 'Friedrichshall.'"

A. R. W.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

The P.A.T.A. Convention.

SIR,—I congratulate you heartily upon being able to report such an exceedingly excellent meeting of chemists as took place last Wednesday. Your leader in reference thereto is sound common sense, especially where you say, "Unprofitable trade is ruinous," &c. Quite right! Mr. Glyn-Jones deserves more praise than he will ever get, and the Chairman's conduct was splendid.

Yours faithfully,

Newhaven, November 28.

W. T. MARTIN.

SIR,—In your report of the recent P.A.T.A. Convention meeting you state I submitted the resolution regarding co-operative societies with the intimation that "I would rather not." You are quite in error. I stated I would rather not have had it in the form in which it appeared, as it threw the onus of regulating prices upon the manufacturers which we could neither expect nor ask—that co-operative societies should be required to so regulate their prices, including dividends, as would bring them into line with the minimum protected prices. I had been urged privately to withdraw the resolution, owing to the thorny nature of the question, the opposition it would receive, and the lateness of the hour. For these reasons, while declining to withdraw, I consented to only formally submit it.

Yours truly,

Glasgow, November 28.

JAS. COCKBURN.

SIR,—Please allow me to congratulate Mr. Glyn-Jones and the P.A.T.A. Council on the splendid success of the recent Convention. It is to me marvellous that so vast a subject should have been so rapidly and yet so thoroughly discussed, and resolutions passed which, I believe, accurately represent the opinions of the whole trade. We must regard it as another evidence of Mr. Glyn-Jones's great abilities that he selected and secured for an extremely difficult task so capable a chairman as Mr. R. A. Robinson. Mr. Davenport, in the course of his sensible and vigorous speech, said that manufacturers had never been able to give an enthusiastic reply to questions about P.A.T.A. results as far as they were concerned. Those who adopt a new scheme rarely know what to expect from it, and generally end by expecting too much. The P.A.T.A. has not made the retailer's fortune; why should it be expected to make the manufacturer's? I estimate that the P.A.T.A. has increased the average retailer's income from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 per cent. This is not much, but it is well worth having, and worth fighting for, and, I think, all things considered, worth enthusiasm also. Again proprietors are scarcely right in comparing the present with, say, ten years ago. That time was theoretically a very good one for them; their goods were being distributed almost free of charge. This, of course, could not last; it was becoming intolerable to the retailer; some change—destruction or compromise—was inevitable. Destructive changes (counter-persuasion and substitution) began naturally, but, fortunately for the manufacturer, compromise in the form of anti-cutting arrangements soon came into greater prominence. Another disturbing factor is that, for various reasons, the result-producing value of advertisement has fallen slightly. The anti-cutting question has divided retailers into two perfectly definite sections—cutters and anti-cutters. Every individual manufacturer must join one of these two. It is annoying perhaps, but it is inevitable, and no nonsense about an impossible position, no so called policy of waiting, will serve to shirk the decision. May I

point out that considerations of policy may dominate manufacturers' pessimistic utterances concerning the P.A.T.A.? Of course, theoretically, it is to the advantage of proprietors within the circle that the Association should be strengthened, but if, for instance, Mr. Owbridge were to join the P.A.T.A. he would partly deprive Messrs. Powell of an advantage which they have enjoyed (and deserved) for years. I notice that, with the exception of Scott's pills, none of the most prominent aperients are on the P.A.T.A. May I ask all retailers to push their own purgers within the next few months? Perhaps the wholesale druggists will take the matter up with special quotations for 7-lb. parcels.

Faithfully yours,
Hampstead, N.W., December 1.
A. W. BROMLEY.

Fair Trade (146/50), writing in regard to the manufacturers' non-acceptance of the invitation to attend the Convention, says, amongst other things, "had the Association anything to offer that the manufacturers cannot arrange better themselves? To this I say emphatically, 'No.' The live manufacturer recognises that the stores and the more enterprising commercial chemists are his best customers, and to place his wares on the Association's list is more likely to cause friction than satisfaction, especially when he can follow such examples of self-protected schemes as Messrs. Elliman, the Vinolia Company, Burroughs Wellcome & Co., and many others. He knows that if he place his goods on the list they are immediately boycotted by a section of his best customers, and imitation and substitution commence from the moment they are listed, because the P.A.T.A. is run on coercive lines. From its inception its aim has always been to harass the stores, leaving the actual cutter—the chemist in a small way of business—alone; it is now the exception to see a window-display of any listed articles, whilst privately protected goods are freely shown. The reason, I conclude, is that no retailer knows how soon he may be placed on the stop-list, through no fault of his own, his supply stopped of those articles he has not sufficient sale for to obtain direct. Again, any manufacturer looking through the P.A.T.A. list cannot but be struck by the conspicuous absence of saleable articles, only about 25 per cent. of those listed being in general demand throughout the country. Having handled patent medicines largely for over twenty years—some years from twenty to thirty thousand pounds' worth—I am bound to confess my ignorance as to what some 50 per cent. of the listed articles are like, as I have not handled them, whilst about 25 per cent. I have handled occasionally, and the remainder regularly. I think Mr. Davenport's speech fairly voices the sentiment of manufacturers generally, and indicates that he himself is not so well satisfied with the results of having protected the price of his articles as he would have liked to be, but, having put his hand to the plough, he is too much of a gentleman to turn his back on the scheme. With the last sentence of his speech, 'As to the miserable ways,' &c., I cannot agree. I have always held, and still hold, that the Association is a combination of individuals associated for the purpose of preventing a tradesman in certain circumstances from obtaining a living—it is in restraint of trade—a trade boycott, and as such its legal status is very doubtful. To combat such, I consider anyone is justified in entering into a similar conspiracy to obtain any goods he requires. He is also justified in using every legitimate means to discourage the sale of the offending articles." Finally, "Fair Trade" suggests that the P.A.T.A. should remodel its ways and methods, and become a centre or bureau of information for the trade, manufacturers and retailers alike.

The P.A.T.A. Label.

SIR,—The suggestion made at the recent Convention that a distinctive label should be affixed to all P.A.T.A. articles is one calculated to be of great service to retailers. The difficulty of always remembering at the counter whether an article is on the P.A.T.A. or not is one which all chemists have felt. I would suggest an addition to the label. It is that a private price-mark should be printed thereon giving the minimum retail price. Thus every article would show the full price printed in plain figures, with the P.A.T.A. minimum in code letters. This method of marking would save the bother of referring to price-lists, and would also put an end to

those "mistakes on the part of the assistant" to which certain cutting firms are prone.

Yours faithfully,

Worthing, December 1.

W. T. FROST.

Suggested label and provisional code :

P.A.T.A.
F

FAIR CUSTOM
1234 567890

Profit and Loss.

SIR,—We deem it something of a compliment that Messrs. Horniblow & Co. should have considered it worth their while to make an extract from one of our chapters on profit and loss, and send it on to THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, though we confess to no small measure of regret that they have succeeded in reading into it a meaning that was not intended and was not ours.

Our friends in Worcester certainly have the faculty of keeping you up to the mark. In the old days, when "cutting" was in vogue, this quiet cathedral town put us to more trouble and expense for years than any town in the Kingdom. Now, when we thought we might lapse into more or less dozy or easy-going ways, we immediately find that if we do not dot our i's and cross our t's they very soon tell us so. In spite of every assurance on our part Messrs. Horniblow have not overpowered us with any signs of believing what we said or any undue precipitancy to "let us down easy." It does seem funny to us to have to say that we do not want to take away the business in high-class toilet soaps which we have built up in the last fifteen years with the chemists, and hand it over to other retailers, any more than we want to hand over our business in household and toilet soaps, which the exigencies of our soap-boiling factory require us to turn out, to the chemists. For us to have to assure the trade that it is not our intention to ruin the chemists' business in Vinolia sounds very much like the assurance of a little schoolboy that he does not really and truly mean to disturb the British Constitution. We are not so childish as to suppose that it is within our power to influence by one jot or tittle the amount of business done by this or that retailer, all that kind of thing being determined by economic conditions over which we could have absolutely no control.

We have written something like seventy chapters or more on "Profit and Loss," and if one were to ask any of the retail trade Associations of Great Britain to whose instrumentality and "constant hammering away" is due the complete change that has come over the face of the intellectual waters of the retail world with regard to the handling of proprietary goods for nothing, they could only answer in truth—to Vinolia. If, out of all the mass of matter turned off on Thursday afternoons in our office, sometimes, perhaps, with regrettable haste and without all that extreme care which might characterise what one would do quietly in his study, if he had not a large business on hand—if, we say, out of all this there is only one paragraph in which we have been misunderstood, we should remark, in the words of Tommy Atkins, that "things is not so bad." Messrs. Horniblow's not very profitable advice to chemists to put the Vinolia goods in the background simply because views which we do not ourselves entertain, and have never dreamed of entertaining, might possibly be saddled on us, is as good as the suggestion that John Bull should stop buying pork from Chicago because many years ago some Yankees suggested that it might be a good idea to cut off the nose of Cape Hatteras, thereby change the course of the Gulf Stream which warms Great Britain, and so freeze out Mr. Bull! After all, should we not bear in mind that the relations between us all are business relations? What each retailer has to put to himself is: "Does Vinolia pay, or does it not?" The answer is: "That the average profits on our toilet-soaps, bought on very best terms and sold at minimum 'cutting' prices, amount to over 27 per cent.; and the sales have gone ahead this year more than for many years." We create so many hundred thousand pounds' worth of business annually in Vinolia soap, and what each retailer gets of it depends on himself. If any of your readers are inclined to think as Messrs. Horniblow do, we should be glad if they would look over some of the pages on "Profit and Loss," about which we may tell you (of course, very confidentially and quite privately) we have received a large

number of complimentary letters from time to time; perhaps they will then find that it is true that we have been trying to promote the interests of all who do business with us, and turn the old-time commercial work-horse life of the retailer, into one with fairer prospects and better results; and, further, will recognise that the whole trend of them is incompatible with what is unfair to our friends, and will then generously excuse any shortcomings they see in us.

Yours faithfully,

VINOLIA COMPANY (LIMITED).

Malden Crescent, N.W., December 3.

Mr. L. L. Stroud (Tewkesbury) thinks Mr. Horniblow, of Worcester, was quite justified in calling attention to the Vinolia "grocer" advertisement. "Hitherto," Mr. Stroud adds, "I have always looked upon the Vinolia Company as a straightforward firm, and have pushed their goods because they paid well, were well put-up, and of excellent quality; I have recommended them, and have several times made window-displays. In future, however, unless I have a very definite assurance from the company that we shall have no more of this sort of advertising, I shall also adopt Mr. Horniblow's policy. Let the company choose between the grocer and the chemist, and let us know where we stand."

The Wrong Thing and the Right Thing.

Dr. J. C. McWalter, pharmaceutical chemist, Dublin, writes to us pungently and scathingly in regard to a circular on the substitution-question recently issued by Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., to whom we are indebted for a copy of it, so that we may be able to tell those who have not seen it what is in it. One of the eight pages is devoted to the firm's expressed views on substitution, then follow quotations from American drug-trade journals and American pharmacists on the question, and, finally, Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co.'s letter to the London Chemists' Association. Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. fairly claim, in their introductory remarks, that they have established a reputation for a particular class of goods associated with their name, and they suggest that every pharmaceutical and drug-trade association should co-operate with them in denouncing those who, by their misdeeds, bring discredit upon an honourable trade and profession. They also urge that what they are doing in this matter is for the protection of those who do not substitute. Dr. McWalter takes strong exception to the circular as a whole, and instances phrases which are lacking in good taste; these we find are from the American journals' articles. He then proceeds as follows :—

In spite of all that has been said in this controversy, there are, I submit, two essential points not insisted on. The first is that, without questioning the right of the Snow Hill people to the term "tabloid," the public *do not*, as a matter of fact, when they use that word, refer solely to the products of Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. It is popularly used, not as a definition, but as a description of a certain lenticular, meniscoid, or biconvexiform shape in which masses of medicinal substances are now popularly supplied. Further, if an adequate profit be not secured to the pharmacist, and if he be forced by the stress of competition to retail a poison at a profit of 15 per cent. and employ a qualified man for so doing, as it is absolutely impossible for him to secure a decent livelihood, pay his other creditors, and provide for the legal risks and responsibilities which the sale of poisons always entails—such a chemist is morally bound, in justice to himself, his family, his creditors, and his fellow-chemists to use every legal means to dissuade his customers, his friends, and his medical patrons from using the products of such a firm. And it is the imperative duty of every chemist to educate, even at a certain loss of time, each of his customers into the implied connotation of the word "tabloid," in order that when they have no wish to pay the price required by the firm who claim it, they may be served by each chemist with the best value in tablets which he has to offer.

Mother Seigel's Ways.

SIR,—I cannot leave the "unqualified denial" of Messrs. A. J. White (Limited), in this week's issue of the *C. & D.*, to pass unnoticed, as it reflects on a statement that I recently made at a meeting of the Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association (see *C. & D.*, November 15). Some few weeks ago their agent called on all the chemists of this town to sign an agreement to fix a minimum retail price of 1s. 0½d. to their syrup. In course of conversation, I remarked to him, "If

yon are going to fix 1s. 0½d. for this article, why not have it at face-value straight away?" He answered, "We should like to, but Boots will not agree to it. We wrote to them some time ago about it; they refused, and at the same time enclosed us an order for 150 gross. You see we have to study such customers." If their agent stated facts, which were not true, the matter lies between him and his employers.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN EVANS

(Adams & Evans, Chemists).

Cambridge, November 29.

Letters in Brief.

We have received further correspondence in regard to the Kuradial Spring Abdominal Pad. A subscriber (145/67) called on December 1 at No. 1 Darby Street, Leeds, in regard to a pad which he had returned, and was told there that they knew nothing about R. B. Macdonald, who sells the pad to chemists and appoints them district agents. If any other chemists are called upon by Macdonald, we would be obliged if they would put him in communication with us.

Mr. F. Hancock, chemist and druggist, formerly in the employment of Lewis & Burrows (Limited) as a branch manager, writes to contradict the Chairman's statement (*C. & D.*, November 29, page 909) regarding the reason for his criticism of the company's report. Mr. Hancock entered the company's employment on January 2, 1899, as manager at Kentish Town. A fortnight later the inspector and stock-keeper told him that there had been a deficit of 150*l.* on the last stocktaking. At the end of nine months, when stock was again taken, the deficit was 100*l.*, and, called upon by the general manager to account for this, Mr. Hancock replied that he had done good business, for he was 50*l.* to the good. It was agreed to have stock retaken, and no further complaint was then made. At the end of Mr. Hancock's second year's service he got a bonus of 5*l.*. Towards the end of 1900 branch managers were asked to take up shares in the company, and Mr. Hancock applied for some. On December 20, 1900, the directors suggested to him that he should take the upper part of the premises as a residence, in lieu of an advance in salary. Mr. Hancock agreed, and matters proceeded smoothly for some time. Stock was taken in September, 1901, but Mr. Hancock heard of no great loss, and he attributes his dismissal to a desire of the directors to get the residence for another employé.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

132/52. Analysis.—Water-analysis.—Free ammonia is estimated by the Nessler test, the colour being compared with that of a known solution. Albuminoid ammonia is best tested by the alkaline-permanganate method devised by Professor J. A. Wanklyn. The working of the test is fully described in Wanklyn's "Water-analysis," 5*s.* (Trübner).

135/5. Ben Neris.—Removing Marking-ink Stains.—The ink is probably an aniline one if, as you say, potassium cyanide and iodine make the marks blacker. Our experience is that it is practically impossible entirely to eradicate aniline ink-stains, but weak nitric acid or hydrochloric acid, alternately soaking the fabric in methylated spirit, is fairly effectual.

128/58. Carboy.—Carboy-colour.—A permanent emerald-green colour is made by dissolving nickel sulphate in water, and acidulating with sulphuric acid. From $\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. o the salt is needed for a 5-gal. carboy.

128/53. Victoria.—Assistants' Agreement.—See *C. & D.*, July 26, page 123.

126/25. J. A. S.—Copying Newspaper Pictures.—The formula for the solution was given in the *C. & D.*, January 18, page 95, but it will not answer for transferring the pictures to glass.

27/82. Caprice.—The Influenza-mixture you allude to is known as "Smith's," and is freely sold in some districts in South Africa. The formula is—

Tr. camph. co.	...	...	...	...	3 <i>j.</i>
Tr. cinch. co...	...	...	...	...	3 <i>j.</i>
Spt. ammon. arom.	...	...	...	...	3 <i>j.</i>
Syr. tolut.	...	...	...	...	3 <i>j.</i>
Aqua ad	...	...	...	...	3 <i>viij.</i>

3*jij.* ter in die.

137/46. G. R. H.—Shampoo-powder containing quillaia:—

Pulv. ext. quillaiae	...	...	...	...	3 <i>iv.</i>
Pulv. boracis...	...	...	...	...	3 <i>xvij.</i>
Ol. lavand.	...	...	...	...	1 <i>xl.</i>
Ol. bergamot...	...	...	...	...	1 <i>xxx.</i>
Ol. caryoph.	...	...	...	...	1 <i>xv.</i>

M.

Weigh into packets each containing 3*jij.*, one being used with a quart of hot water.

135/7. Lex.—Dispensing for Doctors.—The usual basis on which dispensing is undertaken for doctors is 1*d.* per oz. for mixtures, with a minimum of 4*d.*; lotions are charged at lower rates than mixtures, but with the same minimum; liniments are charged according to composition, a profit of 10 or 15 per cent. being added to cost; pills 3*d.* a dozen; and powders 4*d.* a dozen. In all cases costly alkaloids, as ingredients of the prescriptions, justify extra charges.

134/27. Dublin.—A little caustic soda is added to bill-stickers' paste to make it extra adhesive. We know of nothing that would "act as a kind of glaze, and prevent the bills being washed off," short of varnishing.

131/49. R. B.—Beta-naphthol is a well-known coal-tar derivative. Its use in bee-food is to prevent bee-fungus, which is so fatal in some apiaries. A formula for a suitable food containing the proper proportion of beta-naphthol is given in the *C. & D.*, July 26, page 180.

132/12. Rays.—(1) Books on Rontgen Rays.—Walsh's "Rontgen Rays," 10*s.* 6*d.* (Bailliére); Isenthal and Ward's "Practical Radiography," 2*s.* 6*d.* (Dawbarn); and Williams's "Röntgen Rays in Medicine and Surgery," 25*s.* (Macmillan) are all good treatises on this subject. (2) Instruction in manipulation is given by makers of the apparatus.

128/16. H. S. F. B.—Replace part of the turpentine in the Dutch-drops formula by olive oil; the addition of pitch would not much increase the density.

130/17. Villager.—Acetylene for Shop-lighting is quite successful, according to Mr. C. Gerring, who wrote us an article on how to do it (*C. & D.*, April 9, 1898, page 585).

126/59. Wax.—Waxed Paper.—A proportion of stearin is added to the paraffin-wax used for making waxed paper, to prevent it setting soft.

139/8. Rex.—The Developer will probably remain clear, but we cannot tell without making up the solution. Make a few ounces of the developer as an experiment.

127/15. D. W. G. (Bruges).—Capsuling Composition for corks:—

Gelatin	...	...	...	...	7 lbs.
Glycerin	...	...	...	...	10 oz.
Water ...	...	...	...	...	60 oz.

Soak the gelatin in the water over night, then heat on a water-bath till dissolved, and add the glycerin.

Colour is imparted to the composition by any soluble aniline-dye, such as eosine or methylene blue.

127/14. Nocturne.—The Minor qualification is accepted in New Zealand. We do not care to suggest the minimum of capital necessary for a chemist emigrating. You had better first take a situation as assistant, and see if the country suits you; but do not expect to live an easy life, there is as much competition out there as in England.

110/29. Pharmacy.—Parchment is made transparent by treatment with a solution of potashes, but the method is not available in case of drum-heads ready for use.

122/11. *Copal.*—**Dental Copal Varnish.**—In making this it is necessary to use "soft" copal, which is soluble in ether, but "hard" copal can be made ether-soluble by heating it when gases are evolved, and a residue remains which dissolves in ether. The proportions for dental varnish are—

Camphor	...	...	...	...	1 oz.
Soft copal	...	...	...	...	4 oz.
Ether	...	...	...	...	12 oz.

121/4. *H. R.*—**Wart-solvent.**—Salicylic collodion is only of use in removing certain kinds of warts is what the statement in "Diseases and Remedies" implies. For painless warts salicylic acid does no good, glacial acetic acid, nitric acid, or chromic acid being then indicated.

119/22. *F. D.* (Budapest).—**(1) Cutler's Cement** for fastening knives in handles.—The following are two other recipes:—

Resin	...	...	...	...	4 parts
Beeswax	...	...	...	...	1 part
Whiting	...	...	...	...	1 part

Melt the resin and beeswax together and stir in the whiting, previously made red-hot.

Black pitch	...	...	...	5 parts
Wood-ashes	...	...	...	1 part
Tallow	...	...	...	1 part

Melt the pitch and tallow together and mix in the wood-ashes.

(2) The Liquid Metal-polishes now so popular are made by mixing:—

Kieselguhr	...	...	...	...	4 parts
Oleic acid	...	...	...	...	1 part
Benzine	...	...	...	...	8 parts

120/19. *Metol.*—The Dermatitis caused by the use of metol developer is best treated with an ointment such as the following:—

Liq. plumbi	...	...	...	...	3ij.
Liq. carbonis deterg.	...	...	...	...	3ij.
Lanolin.	...	...	...	...	3vj.
Vaseline.	...	...	...	...	5vj.

The fingers to be smeared with the ointment, and cotton gloves worn. If the inflammation and irritation are very severe, lint wetted with liq. plumbi dil. is used as well as the ointment.

110/66. *A. S.* (Lajta-Ujfalio).—We are making inquiries.

200/25. *E. H. R.*—The opium-pipe is worth about 10s. if you have a purchaser.

103/24. *X. Y. Z.*—**(1) Hair-renewer to Suit Your Label.**—A stimulating lotion, such as the cantharidine preparations given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 84, is suitable. The colour of the hair is partly restored by the use of such lotions, especially if there is a fair proportion of spirit present. (2) It is not essential to use almond lotion with Malvina cream ("Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 10), and if you do not care for the presence of perchloride of mercury it can be replaced by chloride of ammonia. (3) Syr. rheadous is a suitable colouring for the acid cough-mixture.

131/52. *P. W.*—The recipe for gonorrhœa-drops reads "oil of man (animal oil), oil of juniper, oil of pivy (ol. copaibæ), oil of fly (ol. canthar.), oil of rodam (oil of rhodium), oil of savein (ol. sabinae), oil of tyne (ol. origani)." The formula is a type of the recipes which unsophisticated persons imagine to be specifics. The duty of the chemist in cases of this kind seems to be to prevent the customer harming himself, and at the same time give an effectual remedy, by supplying a mixture of ol. copaibæ, ol. juniperi, and ol. origani, with suitable directions for use.

128/7. *S. P. D.*—An advertisement in the *C. & D.* Supplement would put you in communication with a dentist willing to teach you tooth-extraction.

132/13. *Este.*—**Sanitary-inspectors' Examination.**—Write to the Secretary of the Sanitary Institute, Margaret Street, W., for a copy of the "Examination Manual" (6d.), which gives the information you require.

128/42. *R. H. P.*—We do not know how the smell of lard is imparted to tallow and fat for soap-making.

140/40. *Pulv.*—We published a formula for liquid ethereal soap in the *C. & D.*, June 22, 1901, page 1003, which you could medicate with an antiseptic.

143/58. *S. H.*—Carbon dioxide is evolved on heating gallic acid in the process of making pyrogallol. A mixture of gallic and tannic acids is best for ink-making, about which you will find useful particulars in "Pharmaceutical Formulas."

103/5. *F. R.*—**Drunkenness-cure.**—The quantity you send is much too small for analytical purposes. Some of the powders sold for giving a distaste for drink to inebriates depend on the presence of a trace of emetin. Such a powder can be made by triturating 2 gr. of extractive emetin (not the pure alkaloid) with 15 gr. of sugar of milk and 15 gr. of sodium bicarbonate, and dividing into twenty powders. One powder is to be dissolved in each glass of intoxicant. After a few doses the inebriate feels sick, and associating the feeling with alcohol, shuns it. Apomorphine hydrochloride, in doses of $\frac{1}{16}$ gr., or tartar emetic ($\frac{1}{2}$ gr. doses), may answer a similar purpose. Perhaps some of our subscribers who have seen the effects of drunkenness-cures will give us their experience.

Coming Events.

Secretaries should send us notices by Wednesday of each week

Saturday, December 6.

Inter-Pharmacy Football League. Metropolitan v. Muter's College.

Monday, December 8.

Wolverhampton Chemists' Association. Paper by Mr. H. E. Cullwick on "Pharmaceutical Experiences at Home and Abroad."

Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, W.C., at 8 P.M. Cantor Lecture (III.), by Professor Vivian B. Lewes on "The Future of Coal-gas and Allied Illuminants."

Dewsbury Chemists' Association, Church House, at 8.30 P.M. Paper by Mr. R. C. Walshaw on "The Pharmaceutical Society, and Why Chemists should Support it."

Tuesday, December 9.

Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain, 66 Russell Square, W.C., at 8 P.M. Dr. R. Norris Wolfenden on "Photography Applied to Marine Zoology."

Oxford Chemists' Association, Golden Cross Hotel, at 9 P.M. Ordinary meeting.

Huddersfield Chemists' Association, Y.M.C.A. Rooms, King Street, at 8.45. Ordinary meeting.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C. Benevolent Fund Election.

Wednesday, December 10.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., at 8 P.M. Discussion on "Standards for Medicines." Adjourned from last meeting.

Institute of Chemistry. Soirée in the galleries of the Royal Society of British Artists, 6½ Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, S.W., from 8.30 to 11.30.

Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association, 36 York Place, at 9.15 P.M. Open meeting.

Newcastle-on-Tyne Chemists' Association. Annual dinner.

Bristol Pharmaceutical Association, Royal Hotel, College Green, at 8.15 P.M. Report of P.A.T.A. Convention delegates will be received, after which a supper and smoking-concert will take place.

Thursday, December 11.

Chemists' Assistants' Association. Instead of meeting as usual at Newman Street, the members of this Association will be shown over the Dispensary of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, by the kindness of Mr. J. Langford Moore. The Dispensary will be open for this purpose from 8 to 9.30 P.M., and members should go there direct.

Midland Pharmaceutical Association, Birmingham. Smoking-concert.

Nottingham Chemists' Association, Victoria Station Hotel. Annual dinner.

Guildhall Library, Basinghall Street, E.C., at 6.30 P.M. Mr. Charles Welch, F.S.A., Librarian, on "The Guildhall Library and Museum, their History and Treasures."